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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Govt suspends direct deposit of payroll

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

The Department of Finance advised CNMI government employees yesterday that it is temporarily suspending the direct deposit of wages and salaries, as a communications outage continues to affect the Commonwealth.

In her advisory, Finance Secretary Larissa Larson said "the disruption of technology in the CNMI has had a significant impact on the processing of direct deposits of all of our CNMI government employees."

"Until the technology issues are resolved by IT&E, all direct deposits of payroll checks will be suspended. The

See PAYROLL on Page 4

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS
"CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN PROGRESS"
OWNER : COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA
JOB TITLE : Island Wide Road Marking & Signage Upgrade Route 30
WORKS
WORKS

ROAD PROJECT
Government officials led by acting governor Ralph DLG. Torres, third from left, shovel sand during the groundbreaking ceremony for an islandwide road improvement marking and signage upgrade held at the Kan Pacific grounds on Tuesday. JOEL D. PINAROC

IT&E successful with 'aerial' fiber

"Aerial" fiber was successfully installed on power poles on Tinian, boosting Internet capacity on Saipan late Monday night.

IT&E said yesterday that round-the-clock efforts by their technicians brought "major" additional Internet capacity to Saipan through the use of "aerial fiber" installed over the weekend.

IT&E installed the fiber with the help of Docomo Pacific personnel, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. line crews, and Telesource staff.

RELATED NEWS
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- Govt urged to reassess CNMI's vulnerability. PAGE 6

As of yesterday, the repair ship identified to fix the damaged undersea fiber optic cable, which caused the network communications outage last Wednesday, was not yet on its way to Saipan.

IT&E said yesterday that plans and

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'DPL's new policy akin to economic recklessness'

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

"What DPL is doing now is a gamble. No pun intended."

This was the statement given by Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands chair Gloria Cavanagh at the Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday regarding the recent issues some of its members are having with the Department of Public Lands.

Speaking before members of the Rotary Club of Saipan, Cavanagh said that DPL's decision to apply to expiring leases the new policy of conducting global solicitation shocked Mariana Resort and Spa. Cavanagh is the general manager of the resort.

She cited part of DPL's letter, which said "this will be the rule for any expiring leases with our government."

"This means a policy that affects all five of our members. The risk of these big five leaving because of this policy is akin to economic recklessness," Cavanagh said.

Aside from Mariana Resort, Kanoa Resort, Fiesta Resort and Spa, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and Hyatt Regency Saipan, whose leases are expiring within three to 10 years from now, also received a letter from DPL regarding their expression of interest to extend their current leasehold.

"HANMI feels that the definition of 'best use' has to include stability, longevity, reliability, loyalty, and certainty," Cavanagh said.

Cavanagh said that HANMI doesn't see the point of forcing the closure of

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A landmark Iran nuclear agreement has been reached after clearing final obstacles.
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LIFE & STYLE
The rapper 50 Cent has filed for bankruptcy after losing a lawsuit.
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Local

Club C turns 1!

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Club C at Kanoa Resort, dubbed as Saipan's casino and entertainment paradise, turned a year old in June and is celebrating its year of success with a cocktail party tonight.

According to general manager Peter Stewein, it has been an interesting year "because not every month is the same. Every single month is different."

"All things come with ups and downs," he added. "It's been interesting especially this year, the general times. The fluctuations in the tourists and the problems encountered in airlines."

Despite not putting out a lot of advertisements, the local market has been stable for Club C. "Everybody always wants to do better but overall, it has been successful," he said.

Stewein said Club C was able to "provide something that's different" on the island and it has been successful in this score. He noted that Club C has everything—from just sitting down with a drink and having something to eat to gaming and entertainment.

"Casinos around the world generally these days put an emphasis on entertainment. Walk in, sit down, get something to drink, something to eat, enjoy a little bit of music, little bit of game on the side. It's a mix," he said.

Even though Club C is primarily a gaming facility, Stewein emphasized that is not only for those who want to play electronic games or e-games but also for those just want to have a good time as well.

"It's not 'you must gamble.' Enjoy yourself. If you like, you can [gamble], but you don't have to," Stewein said.

At Club C, everyone is welcome. Stewein said it doesn't matter if you dress up or not; it is open to different kinds of clients and is a safe place for a good time.

And with a new year starting for Club C, it comes with yet another set of challenges. Despite this, projections are positive for the establishment.

"We got some competitions coming. …Hotels are opening; more tourists are coming, more business. In the long run, if that all keeps on expanding…it's good for everyone, including us. …Over the longer period of time, I believe we'll be a successful company," he said.

Ari Huggins and Raynie headline the musical act at Club C. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Besides, a little competition is good for the business too.

"It keeps you on your toes," Stewein said.

Entertainment paradise

In keeping with its promise to provide world-class entertainment, Club C has been bringing in performers from overseas as well as staging local artists.

One of the newest performers they have is Ari Huggins, who has been in the entertainment business for 20 years and has performed in Los Angeles, Japan, Germany, Denmark, England, and Russia.

"My parents were Caribbean so I know island tropical life already. It's a good combination: state, Western, and you know, tropical," Huggins said.

Huggins is an overall performer and sings classics, R&B, reggae, and even some Japanese songs and his original songs.

"I do Elvis or Neyo or Stevie Wonder or John Legend, Bob Marley. I do a variety," Huggins said.

Another performer is Raynie who has been with Club C when it opened a year ago. She hails from Taiwan but has also performed in various places including Macau. She has been in the entertainment scene for a decade.

"I was singing in Macau and I think the boss went to the lounge bar where I was singing," Raynie said.

Despite their origins, Raynie and Huggins are proven flexible performers, well-versed not only in popular songs but also songs in various languages.

"Singing in different languages for me is not that hard," Raynie said.

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Proposed plea deal for ex-PTSA VP deemed too lenient

A proposed plea deal for a former Parent Teacher and Student Association officer who stole more than $4,000 from the association's funds has been rejected after the judge deemed the three-month prison sentence too lenient.

The proposed plea deal would have imposed a three-month prison term on Priscilla Taitano Castro, a former vice president of Kagman Elementary School's PTSA who stole the PTSA's fundraising money in the amount of $4,442.34 and pawned for $150 a laptop owned by the Public School System.

In rejecting the proposed plea deal, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho said the sentence only appears to be lengthy, but the reality is that the three-month prison sentence is barely 5 percent of the possible maximum sentence of five years.

Camacho said the severity of Castro's acts warrant greater retribution and incarceration.

The judge said the plea deal fails to take into account all the hard work of the students, parents, and teachers to raise funds and Castro's betrayal of trust as PTSA vice president.

Camacho said Castro offers no persuasive reason why the court should accept the proposed plea agreement.

Camacho noted that Castro, 49, is a repeat offender with several criminal cases involving financial crimes such as forgery and extensive civil action/small claim cases involving her failure to live up to her financial obligations.

Camacho enumerated Castro's five criminal cases and 42 small claims and breach of contract/collection cases.

The judge said the prosecutor relies on Castro's promise to pay restitution in the amount of $4,442.34 as the main reason why the court should accept the plea deal.

"Though it is not illegal to have a debt or purchase items through credit, Castro has demonstrated her lack of financial responsibility to repay her debts," he said.

In summary, Camacho said, Castro wants to get out of jail immediately on the promise that she will pay back the money she stole.

Camacho said that based on Castro's criminal history and her extensive civil/small claims cases, her promise to pay the money she stole is not believable.

The only person the plea deal will benefit is Castro, he said.

"This court will not accept a plea agreement that will re-victimize the students, parents, and teachers of Kagman Elementary School," he said.

Office of the Public Auditor investigator Thelma M. Mizer disclosed in her report that Castro, who was the then-vice president of Kagman PTSA during the 2012-2013 school year, admitted to having spent all of the PTSA's money for her daughter's graduation party, her house, her husband's poker habit, and personal use.

Mizer said Castro also admitted that she pawned the PSS' Sony Vaio E series 14 notebook computer for $150 at 24 Hours Pink House Pawn Shop in Chalan Kanoa, reportedly to buy food for her family.

Castro remains in jail after failing to post a $10,000 cash bail. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Improper wiring triggers fire at Pretty Market

Improper wiring reportedly triggered a fire in an office at Pretty Market in Garapan on Friday morning.

No one was injured or received medical treatment during the fire, according to Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesman Derek Gersonde on Monday.

A visit by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday afternoon showed that it's business as usual at the store.

The store held a clearance sale last month.

Gersonde said DFEMS received a call from 911 dispatch about a structure fire at the Pretty Market at 7:51am.

Gersonde said firefighters from the Garapan Station, San Roque Station, Koblerville Station, and members of the Chemical, Biological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosives Unit from the Susupe Station immediately responded and extinguished the fire by 8:10am.

Arson investigators determined that the fire was caused by an overloaded circuit breaker.

The fire started in the main office from the air-conditioning unit and spread to nearby combustible materials within the office.

Gersonde said the fire was fully contained within the office space because of the non-combustible partition and wall. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Rapadas explains why US govt did not prosecute Fitial over massage

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Former U.S. Attorney for the U.S. District Courts for Guam and the NMI Leonardo Rapadas believes the reason why the U.S. government did not prosecute then-governor Benigno R. Fitial when the massage issue broke out in 2010 was because they were concerned at the time about the criminal case of the masseuse.

In an interview last week, Rapadas said they wanted to make sure at the time that the masseuse's case would not be compromised.

"Our determination at that time was there wasn't any. So I think maybe what happened at that time was that we're more concerned about the case with that masseuse," said Rapadas, who is now the CNMI's chief prosecutor.

» Nutting tells Fitial's side of the story

It's the first time that Rapadas spoke about the massage issue. When the incident happened on Jan. 8, 2010, he was the U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the NMI. In June 2010, Alicia Limtiaco succeeded Rapadas as U.S. Attorney for both districts.

Citizen activist Glen Hunter recently stated that his focus right now is to ask the federal government to immediately install the CNMI's own U.S. Attorney.

Hunter believes that if the CNMI had one when Fitial "committed many of his many major crimes, a CNMI-based U.S. Attorney would not have turned a blind eye," rather than for the public to wait over five years for the local courts and the Office of the Public Auditor to bring Fitial to justice.

Rapadas said the massage incident happened many years ago and that his memory is fuzzy on why the U.S. government did not prosecute Fitial.

He, however, recalled that one of the things that they did was they tried to bring Fitial in and speak to him about what happened.

Rapadas said there are issues that are not covered by federal or local laws so the federal and the Commonwealth governments work together to determine how to best address a particular situation if there's any violation of law.

Fitial signed a plea agreement with the government and pleaded guilty last May 13 to misconduct in public office and conspiracy to commit theft of services.

Last June 24, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman slapped Fitial with a one-year prison term. Gov. Eloy S. Inos later commuted the sentence.

The offense of misconduct in public office refers to the time when Fitial had his masseuse—a female Chinese who was at that time a federal prisoner at the Department of Corrections—temporarily released so she could massage him at his house on Jan. 8, 2010.

The conspiracy to commit theft of services refers to Fitial's role in former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham's efforts to evade lawful service of process during his departure from the Commonwealth at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on Aug. 3 or 4, 2012.

In documents submitted in court, Fitial's lawyer, Stephen J. Nutting, explained the government's side of the story in the massage issue.

According to Nutting, while many have chosen to believe there was something untoward with the massage, Fitial in fact had an ongoing contract with the massage therapist's employer, which he had been paying personally for many months prior to the therapist's arrest.

Nutting said when the therapist failed to show up for the daily treatment, Fitial contacted the agency and learned that his massage therapist had been arrested.

The lawyer said that in the late evening of Jan. 7, 2010, on the very eve of his second inauguration celebration as governor, Fitial was suffering from severe and excruciating back pain.

Nutting said it was only when the pain became too much to bear—and with the inauguration scheduled for the following day—that Fitial contacted the Department of Corrections.

At that time, Nutting said, Fitial learned that the Chinese masseuse was in the custody of DOC on federal charges related to immigration matters.

Nutting said that Fitial contacted then-DOC director Dolores San Nicolas and asked if an escort for the masseuse to treat him would be permissible.

San Nicolas later stated that she attempted to contact the Attorney General and U.S. Marshal Don Hall, but neither responded to her late-evening calls.

Nutting said San Nicolas made what she later described as an "executive decision" and arranged for the prisoner to be escorted to Fitial's residence, all the while in the custody of DOC personnel.

Nutting said the following morning, the AG and then-U.S. Assistant Attorney General Eric O'Malley were notified of what had transpired.

Nutting said a hearing was held that same morning in front of U.S. District Court for the NMI then-Chief Judge Alex Munson.

The lawyer said at the hearing, Munson concurred with the AG that even with DOC escorts, such releases should not happen again in the future.

Nevertheless, Nutting said, no charges were brought by the U.S. Attorney for the AG against Fitial, or anyone else connected with the escort.

"Nor did Judge Munson impose any sanctions or reprimand against Mr. Fitial or the Department of Corrections for their actions related to the escort," he pointed out.

CUC and CHCC to meet over payment plan

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has arranged to meet with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. next Tuesday to iron out the details of a payment plan for the hospital's average $500,000 monthly utility bills, acting CUC executive director John Riegel told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The hospital owes around $16 million in unpaid bills to CUC. They owe around $560,000 in bills plus penalties per month. Recently, the CUC board drafted a monthly $150,000 payment plan, but gave CUC management a 30-day period late last month to meet and discuss the payment plan with the hospital.

Riegel on Monday morning told *Saipan Tribune* they sent a letter last Wednesday to CHCC inviting them to meet. Riegel said yesterday that CHCC has since replied to the letter.

In June, CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña proposed a minimum of $150,000 in monthly payments until CHCC completed a "renewable energy" system. However, CUC would like to know more about these renewable energy plans and determine exactly how much the hospital can pay them.

In an interview Monday, Riegel said there were "several deficiencies" in CHCC's proposed payment plan and CUC wants to iron out some of those details and talk the terms of the agreement rather than just have a written document.

"They wanted to pay an amount that's less than their monthly usage, which of course just continues to increase their" debts to CUC, he said. "Everybody should pay what they consume, and we would like to work out" a plan "that is amendable to both parties," Riegel said.

CHCC's 2012 and 2013 audits provided neither a clean, qualified, nor adverse opinion but rather a "disclaimer" of an opinion. In their audit, Muña explained they were unable to determine the propriety of receivables and inventories for 2013 and 2012 as they "could not substantiate general ledger balances due to inadequacies in accounting records."

The "disclaimer," among the identified 15 "material weakness" in the hospital's internal control structure, prompted CUC chief financial officer Matthew Yaquinto to suggest to the CUC board last week that they think "out of the box" and help CHCC determine the state of their finances.

"Why don't we tell them, you keep your $150,000 a month for three or four months, [and] procure a consultant to help you with your billing system, collections, and finances, etc.," Yaquinto explained to *Saipan Tribune.*

Yaquinto said he could act as a project manager and oversee the work because it helps both companies.

Some of the CHCC audit's material weaknesses included the lack of accounting policies and controls over the financial reporting process; lack of established monitoring control procedures to determine the accuracy and completeness of transactions; lack of established policies and procedures for revenue recognition; inadequate file maintenance and untimely recording of transactions; and the lack of control over monitoring and approval of purchases/disbursements, travel advances, adherence to procurement rules and regulations and proper systematic filing of relevant documents.

North Pacific negotiators prepare for climate change talks in Paris

POHNPEI, Federated States of Micronesia—A crucial workshop to prepare three North Pacific nations for their participation in negotiations at the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference opened in Pohnpei yesterday, supported by the Government of Germany.

Senior officials from Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands will be updated on the current status of climate change negotiations and assisted to analyze the draft Paris treaty text and to prepare proposals for the 21st UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties in Paris (COP 21) by end of this year.

Climate change is a real and serious threat to the livelihoods and sustainable development of Pacific people and the Pacific Islands will continue to call for a significant reduction in the rate of global greenhouse gas emissions to prevent further long term impacts.

The workshop is hosted by the government of FSM and jointly organized by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Program, and Pacific Island Forum Secretariat.

The UNFCCC process for developing a protocol, another legally-binding instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention is complex and challenging for many small states.

European countries, among them Germany, are standing side by side with Pacific Island governments to achieve a positive outcome at the climate change negotiations, the Program Director and Senior Adviser for GIZ, Dr. Wulf Killmann, said.

"The stakes are high for Pacific nations so there's been anticipation in this intensive training for negotiators which complements ongoing financial and technical support to strengthen their resilience against the impacts of climate change," said Killmann, the workshop's moderator.

"It's important that the international community comes to an ambitious, comprehensive climate change agreement at COP 21 at the end of the year," he said.

The financial and technical support of industrialized nations is essential for small island nations, which are among the most vulnerable to climate change, the Director of SPC's North Pacific Regional office, Gerald Zackios, said.

PAYROLL

From Page 1

Department of Finance will be issuing paper checks to all CNMI government employees until further notice," she wrote.

The Finance chief also urged the early submission of payroll documents.

"Effective immediately, and to ensure that payroll is processed in a timely manner, all time summary reports, as well as any and all other required payroll documents must be submitted to the DOF Division of Finance & Accounting Payroll section no later than the close of business on the Wednesday following the release of the payroll," the advisory said.

She apologized "for any inconvenience that this may cause you as a result of this situation that is beyond our control, but are committed to timely payroll. We know we can make this happen if all departments and agencies comply with this order."

Larson described the impact of the outage to her department as "very significant," adding that the outage caused delays on drawdowns on federal funds and severely affected the department's reporting activities, among other things.

She said the outage compelled the department to manually process some 1,500 checks for government employees who then had to rush to the bank to have their checks changed into cash.

Government employees would normally have gotten a direct deposit in their bank accounts.

DPL

From Page 1

an establishment to replace it with a new one.

"We believe it is in the best interest of the CNMI for both our long-term investors, Kanoa, Fiesta, PIC, Hyatt and Mariana Resort and the new long-term investor to both operate, both pay taxes, both pay lease rental, and both employ local people," Cavanagh said.

"We see no legitimate or useful purpose to force the closure of one to replace it with another," she added.

Cavanagh pointed out that the community should remember history and look at the "scars" left by closed establishments such as garment factories, a mall, and other hotels.

"If DPL is allowed to take away all five of us and this doesn't pan out, and this gamble we lose, what kind of scar are we going to have?" Cavanagh asked.

According to her, they also sent a letter to Gov. Eloy S. Inos before he went on leave. The letter, dated July 2, requested Inos "to revisit the position taken by the DPL secretary and thereupon to reconsider the same."

In a letter to Mariana Resort dated July 6, DPL said it "will honor the agreement and Kan Pacific's rights under the lease until its expiration. DPL is not seeking to terminate the lease early or to directly manage the facilities… However, please note that at the end of the lease term the leased premises revert to DPL and all improvements become the property of DPL."

The letter also added that "DPL is not opposed to entering into a new lease with Kan Pacific, if after a review and comparison of competing proposals in response to an RFP for the Marpi properties, Kan Pacific's proposal is determined to be the most beneficial to DPL and the CNMI."

IT&E

From Page 1

logistics are being prepared and the ship would be underway soon.

They said more information would be provided when available.

IT&E parent company PTI CEO Jim Oehlerking is expected to meet with reporters today. ***(Dennis Chan)***

BEFORE DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY

Torres still waiting for IT&E's report

By JOEL PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting governor Ralph DLG. Torres hopes to get a more extensive status report from telecommunications firm IT&E as discussions on a possible state of emergency for the CNMI continue.

Torres said he and Attorney General Edward Manibusan continue to hold discussions on the state of emergency declaration but are waiting on IT&E for the report.

"I have no update on the status of the repair, but they [IT&E] gave an update today," Torres said, referring to a press release from the service provider.

IT&E said that aside from the basic communications services, customers can also expect a "marked difference with their Internet outage."

IT&E said it is in contact with a repair vessel sailing from Taiwan. But the company did not specify any other details.

Torres said he will "not want to act on it [state of emergency]" until after meeting with IT&E.

The Attorney General yesterday confirmed that talks on a state of emergency was brought up as early as last week when the massive communications outage started.

He echoed Torres' comments, saying that a declaration will depend on how long the outage would be.

"Once a timetable is in, we can then decide what to do," Manibusan said, adding that he and Torres are "looking at other alternatives," and if necessary "possibly declare something."

According to the AG, a state of emergency will give the CNMI government "the ability to mobilize resources and mobilize people to go to Tinian to do their work there."

"We can move into Guam if we have to," he said.

A damaged submarine fiber optic cable and a backup system that also needed tweaking effectively cut off Saipan from the rest of the world last week, crippling some critical services and industries on the island.

Guam officer arrested after another officer's death

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Guam police have arrested an officer on suspicion of murder after the fatal shooting of a 15-year veteran of the force.

Department spokesman A.J. Balajadia told the *Pacific Daily News* an intruder wasn't involved in the shooting that left 38-year-old officer Eibert G Piolo dead.

An internal affairs investigation is taking place after the Monday arrest of 30-year-old Mark Anthony Torre.

The department referred questions about the shooting to court documents, which weren't immediately available Monday morning.

The shooting prompted acting Police Chief Joseph Cruz to request that his Monday morning confirmation hearing to take over the department's top leadership role be rescheduled.

The legislature's Committee on Public Safety will swear Cruz in on July 27.

CUC's auto pay and online payment services are temporarily unavailable

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is currently unable to offer online and auto payment services to its customers as a result of the ongoing communications difficulties facing the CNMI.

In lieu of online and auto payments, CUC customers are asked to visit the Dandan Customer Service Center and make payments with cash, check, or credit and debit cards until the damage to IT&E's undersea cable is repaired.

CUC has approximately 400 customers who make their monthly utility payments through its auto pay service and about 3,000 customers who make their monthly utility payment through its website, www.cucgov.org.

Acting CUC executive director John Riegel said the inability to provide online and auto payment services is a temporary situation.

"It is unfortunate that we are unable to provide our customers with electronic payment options at this time, but these services will resume as soon as the communications are restored," Riegel said.

CUC will attempt to contact its auto pay customers; "however we understand the current situation may preclude us from doing so successfully in all cases."

CUC chief financial officer Matthew Yaquinto said CUC customers will be extended additional consideration in light of recent events.

"Our customers will not be penalized because of the communication outage. Any fees associated with the communications issues will not be assessed. We will give our customers extra time to make their payments and not disconnect them because of the outage," Yaquinto said.

For more information about your CUC account, visit CUC's Dandan Customer Service Center or contact the 24-hour Customer Call Center 664-4CUC (4282). ***(CUC)***

Govt urged to reassess CNMI's vulnerability

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

The massive communications breakdown in the Commonwealth and its lingering effects should compel the local government to bring this matter to the attention of regulators, according to some lawmakers.

"It is time for the CNMI government to elevate discussions regarding this matter with the Federal Communications Commission, the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, and business stakeholders," Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) said.

Demapan, who chairs the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs, said that "what occurred is far beyond the loss of Internet access or telecommunications ability."

"This is a major infrastructure and security crisis that halted the Commonwealth's capabilities in terms of public and private sector operations, health care services, airlines, and banking services," he said.

Demapan noted that loss of networking capability "nearly crippled commerce activities and businesses like hotels, stores, and gas station were forced to turn away customers who sought to transact business with the use of credit cards."

The outage also affected the ability to track typhoons in real time and it incapacitated families from communicating with each other, he said.

GTA

Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" Guerrero (R-Saipan), meanwhile, confirmed that Guam's GTA will be coming over to meet with lawmakers this week to discuss the possibility of the communications services provider entering the CNMI.

Guerrero said he had a meeting with a legal counsel from GTA on the possibility.

"IT&E has monopolized [the business] for 30 years. The investors of this company owe the CNMI an explanation," he said, adding that he fully supports the entry of GTA to the Commonwealth.

He also warned that a class action suit might face IT&E.

"The sad thing is they [IT&E] assured the Senate that they are capable to address this [outage]. But how do you quantify the loss?" he asked.

Guerrero hopes to get some answers from IT&E, which has been summoned to a meeting with lawmakers today. The House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications, chaired by Rep. Francis Taimanao (Ind-Saipan), will convene the meeting.

'Not giving homesteads to NI residents discriminatory, unlawful'

Despite the routine issuance of homestead lots to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, no homesteads have so far been designated for the Northern Islands—a practice that Northern Islands Mayor Jerome K. Aldan described as discriminatory and "downright unlawful."

"The local government could not lawfully continue to withhold issuance of beneficially vested rights to homesteads in the Third Senatorial District of the Northern Islands, unlike its routine practice of issuing homestead lots in the first senatorial district of Rota, second senatorial district of Tinian, and third senatorial district of Saipan, but not the Northern Islands," Aldan said.

"This discriminatory practice is downright unlawful," he added.

The Department of Public Lands has yet to issue homesteads for Pagan despite numerous laws requiring DPL to implement it.

Aldan went over a list of early homestead laws since 1979, which include Public Laws 1-42, P.L. 2-13, P.L. 8-9, P.L. 11-96, P.L. 14-66, P.L. 16-50, and P.L. 17-26.

"Just recently, the 18th House of Legislature passed HB 18-109 in 2013 to compel DPL to issue homesteads to residents of the Northern Islands, removing any and all administrative roadblocks to issuance of homesteads to residents of the Northern Islands," he said.

"In 2013 Public Law 18-16 amended Public Law 12-20 [free trade zones] that included the Northern Islands in the FTZ. More than two years ago, DPL performed land surveys on the island of Pagan, which it identified as Lot No. 001 S 03," he added.

The lot is located in Regusa, Pagan, containing an area of 731,464 square meters of land suitable for village and agricultural homesteads. Another 35 parcels of homestead lots were surveyed at the direction of the public land office back in 1980 by a private survey firm, which is the site of the present homestead in Shulmuson village in Pagan.

A little over 700 homestead parcels could be issued in Regusa compared to the 35 parcels in the present village of Shumulson. Altogether, nearly 800 homestead parcels could be issued on Pagan to its residents this year.

"While the governor [Eloy S. Inos] has indicated his opposition to live-fire training activities, the 18th House [of Representatives] has actually introduced and passed a House Joint Resolution requesting Gov. Eloy S. Inos to oppose the militarization of Pagan," Aldan said.

Last year, Joint Resolution 18-14 requested Inos to "oppose any and all proposed military use of Pagan and oppose any increased military activities in the Northern Islands." The resolution added that a "wholesale militarization planned for Pagan will permanently foil any meaningful chance for resettlement and result in collateral damage."

Aldan said that people do not need to live on Pagan or the Northern Islands in order to have their ownership recognized. The people of Pagan or other Northern Islands and their descendants "could and should be recognized" as the beneficiaries of land, he said.

"On land ownership, put simply, the Department of Defense will not want to compel the acquisition of Pagan through eminent domain. It is politically risky and takes enormous time to push the matter through U.S. Congress. Even a single landowner who refuses to lease his/her interest, DOD will have to go through several procedural steps to take the land," he said. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

No decision yet on reimbursement for LibDay vendors

No decision has been made yet whether vendors will be reimbursed a portion of the fees they paid to rent concession booths for the 2015 Liberation Day festivities due to revenues lost on account of Tropical Storm Chan-Hom and Typhoon Nangka.

Skywalker Communications Group, Saipan Mayor's Office, and the 2015 Liberation Committee met yesterday at the Ladera Center to discuss the Liberation Day parade and the issue with the vendors.

Saipan Mayor's Office special assistant Henry Hofschneider said there is one option, but the three groups will be meeting later this week to discuss options on how to deal with the vendor reimbursement.

"We will be meeting separately on that and decide on the vendors. We're looking at an available option that a portion would be reimbursed; however, we also looked at our expenses and costs on our side just to be fair to everybody," Hofschneider said.

He said that one of the options is to reimburse vendors a portion of the concession fees, adding that he hopes vendors and organizers will be able to reach an amicable agreement.

Skywalker Communications business director Elvis Yu also said that there hasn't been any decision.

The carnival grounds opened yesterday, July 14. Due to tropical storms Chan-Hom and Nangka passing through the Commonwealth, vendors were not able to utilize the rented booths for 12 days since July 2. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

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Seman: Ceremonial take of green sea turtle is 'culturally important'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The cultural or "ceremonial" take of green sea turtles connects people to their culture, according to Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Richard Seman in a public hearing Monday night.

His comments come as the National Marine Fisheries Service proposes to list the turtles as "endangered."

Jennifer Schultz, NOAA Fisheries Protected Species division biologist, moderated the hearing at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. NOAA Fisheries is soliciting comments on the proposed "uplisting" of green sea turtles from "threatened" to "endangered."

Seman said the Carolinian Affairs Office wrote to the Western Pacific Fisheries Council in 1995, requesting for the legal take of green sea turtles for cultural purposes.

He said a workshop—in the same building where the hearing was held Monday—took place to find a "direction" that will meet the requirements for such taking. Seman said the result of this workshop was a turtle survey, or research, program that continues up to this day.

"The whole action around this was one request: How can we legally harvest sea turtles for ceremonial purposes?" he said. At least in the Carolinian community, they are not requesting to "eat" turtle, Seman said.

"Their request is to allow them to harvest four turtles a year for ceremonial purposes because it is their concern that the younger generation are losing [their] connection between the sea turtle and their culture…[They] believe strongly that connecting the youth and the ceremonial purposes of sea turtle would bring about greater conservation measures," Seman said.

In the absence of this "special part" of culture, the turtle is nothing but a "piece of food," he added.

NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in March an endangered status for green sea turtles due to "increasing threats" to the Central West Pacific's 51 nesting sites. These threats, the Services said, included U.S. military and commercial activity and development, as well as the lack of regulatory mechanisms for the protection of turtles.

The Services said in-water green turtle density in the Marianas is "low and mostly restricted to juveniles." They said insufficient information suggests "unknown trends" in the Marianas and other areas.

With the proposed rule, the Services are redefining the current listing of species into 11 distinct population segments, or DPSs. The Services find that eight of these population segments qualify as threatened, and three as endangered.

The CNMI falls in the Central West Pacific DPS with Palau, Federal States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands, Guam, and a portion of Japan.

The Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles—a treaty between U.S. and 14 other countries—prohibits, among others, the taking of green sea turtles.

Draft of CUC Integrated Resource Management Plan out in a month

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Leidos Engineering LLC, the firm contracted to develop a comprehensive energy plan for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., is close to finalizing a report, a draft of which should be shared in August, acting CUC executive director John Riegel told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"They will be showing us the model of the grid and all the different renewable energy input," he said.

The planned IRP will describe CUC's best options in terms of base-load and renewable energy sources that result in affordable prices for customers in years to come.

Riegel said Leidos is getting close to being done. He said it may not be "100 percent" done within a month but at least a draft is going to be ready.

He told *Saipan Tribune* that a presentation of this draft would be at the next CUC board meeting in August.

Lt. Cdr. Brian Bearden, a CUC engineer of the U.S. Public Health Commissioned Corps, updated the CUC board last week on Leidos' efforts.

Bearden said CUC has been having weekly project management meetings with Leidos.

"They are at the point now where they are at the final modeling…that will result in the IRP report within about a month timeframe," he said.

He said Leidos has been working on "technical and cost" issues, which include fuel price forecasts, for example.

He said a final presentation of results to the board is expected sometime in August.

He said the IRP would finalize over the next month or so after.

Leidos' Charles Janacek told the board in May that the IRP is a plan stretching up to 25 years that will also look at the volatility of gas prices and the potential development and demand on island.

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IN LAWSUIT OVER DEFECTIVE AIRPORT TERMINAL PROJECT

Nebraska corporation settles contractor's lawsuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Leo A. Daly Co., a Nebraska corporation that designed and built the defective terminal addition project at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport, has settled the lawsuit filed against it by its contractor in federal court.

According to court documents, Leo A. Daly Co. and the Boeing Company have settled the lawsuit.

The settlement conference was held before U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Kevin S. C. Chang last July 10.

According to the minutes of the conference, the parties will be signing the settlement documents early this week.

The parties are expected to drop the lawsuit in 21 days.

Boeing Service Co. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Boeing Co., a Delaware corporation that is reportedly the world's largest aerospace company and a leading manufacturer of commercial jetliners and defense, space, and security systems.

Boeing Co. worked closely with the federal government to implement upgraded security systems following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority contracted with Boeing to procure the design and ultimate construction of the terminal addition project.

Boeing entered into subcontracts with Leo A. Daly Co., or LAD, under which LAD was responsible for both the design and construction management of the project.

Boeing Co. and Boeing Service Co. are now suing LAD for breach of contract, express contractual indemnity, implied contractual indemnity, professional malpractice, negligence, violation of CNMI Consumer Protection Act, violations of Building Code, bad faith, and contributions.

Boeing asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold LAD liable to pay them over $5 million in damages and reimburse them of all costs and attorneys' fees.

Boeing counsel Sean Frink stated that Boeing had no choice but to file the lawsuit because LAD refused to fix the structure, to settle the parties' dispute, or to reimburse Boeing for the damages caused by LAD's errors.

Frink said as a result of LAD's negligent and deficient design, CPA issued a demand to Boeing, asking Boeing to tear down and rebuild the project and pay CPA millions of dollars in damages and attorneys' fees.

LAD, through counsel Patrick J. Kirby, said any injuries or damages allegedly sustained by Boeing Co. and Boeing Service Co. in the project were caused solely by the conduct of third persons, entities, or parties.

LAD is not responsible for the conduct, said Kirby in LAD's answer to Boeing Co.'s and Boeing Service Co.'s lawsuit against LAD.

Kirby said any injuries or damages allegedly sustained by Boeing were caused solely by Boeing's own negligence and/or breaches of contract or inactions.

Last August, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge J. Michael Seabright dismissed CPA's lawsuit against Boeing after the parties reached a settlement that has been approved by the Superior Court.

Seabright, however, ruled that Boeing's lawsuit against LAD, which is also pending before the federal court, will continue.

In its lawsuit, CPA asked the court to order the defendants to pay in excess of $1 million for damages, courts costs, and attorney's fees.

DOC to look into economic impact of network outage

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

The Department of Commerce is now working to come up with an assessment on the economic impact of the CNMI-wide network outage and the ongoing limited Internet problem on Saipan

According to acting Commerce secretary Dave Maratita, they will be doing a survey to be able to get information from the community.

"That was discussed in the Cabinet meeting. We will look into that," Maratita said.

He added that it will be a socio-economic survey that will look into what kind of impact businesses experienced from this problem

Maratita also said that they will try to capture the businesses' as well as the consumers' standpoint on what impact they experienced.

He said they will be waiting for Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, who should be returning to the island this week after being on leave due to official business.

The department did not give a rough estimate on how much the CNMI lost and is losing because of the network problem.

"The survey will definitely give an overall estimate," he said.

He added that the approach will probably be to conduct a survey on random businesses and consumers.

"But that's not definite yet. We still have to come up with a specimen on what type of questions will we have," Maratita said.

"That's still under planning and discussion," he added.

Ruling on *mwei mwei* adoption affirmed

On July 7, 2015, the NMI Supreme Court issued *In re Estate of Maximo Lairopi Olopai*, 2015 MP 3. The high court reviewed whether the evidence was sufficient to support the trial court's ruling that Manuel Mangarero ("Manuel") and Tarsicio Olopai ("Tarsicio") were Maximo Olopai's ("Maximo") *mwei mwei* adopted sons.

In examining the trial court's factual findings, the high court considered the eight-factor test set forth in *In re Estate of Malite,* 2011 MP 4, for analyzing *mwei mwei* adoptions. These factors include: (1) whether the natural parents consented to the adoption; (2) the child's age at the time of adoption; (3) whether the adoption was between relatives; (4) whether women initiated the adoption; (5) whether the adopting parent was married; (6) whether the community was aware of the adoption; (7) whether the natural parent reclaimed the adoptee; and (8) whether the adoptee was the natural parent's only child. An adoptee is entitled to inherit from adoptive parents if the totality of the circumstance supports a finding of *mwei mwei.*

The trial court concluded the factors 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8 weighed in favor finding a *mwei mwei* adoption; factor 5 weighed against; and factor 4 was neutral. Upon a review of the record, the Supreme Court concluded that the trial court did not commit clear error in its findings of fact because each finding was adequately supported by testimony. The high court therefore affirmed the order finding Manuel and Tarsicio heirs to Maximo's estate as customarily adopted sons. ***(NMI Judiciary)***

Workshop on time management, goal setting

Whether you are a manager or a front line staff person, you probably could use a little more efficiency in your day. Get some great tips at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's next business seminar on July 21, Tuesday, at their office located in Room 315 of the Marianas Business Plaza.

Jomari Pico from T Galleria will speak about goal setting, and Jim Arenovski from Island Training Solutions will offer tips and tricks for time management. Both topics will give you ways to get more done in a shorter amount of time, and to work toward your goals in the process. The seminar begins at 9am and ends at noon. Light refreshments are included.

Registrations are being accepted now by email (coordinator.saipanchamber@gmail.com) or by calling the Chamber at 234-7150. Registration fee is $25 for Chamber members and $35 for non-members. Limited seats are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. ***(SCC)***

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EDITORIAL

Lowly Pluto has a lot to bark about

Look closely. There's little Pluto, ready for its close-up.

The orphan of the solar system—unceremoniously booted in 2006 from the roster of planets for being a mere dwarf planet—is now the center of astronomical attention. NASA's New Horizons spacecraft will fly tantalizingly close to Pluto Tuesday. The voluminous data and the photos New Horizons will send back—with their potential for unprecedented detail and clarity—have scientists salivating.

Every aspect of this mission is awe-inspiring. New Horizons, the fastest spacecraft ever launched, is the size of a grand piano. In 9 years it has traveled 3 billion miles, so far that its signals take 4 hours to reach flight controllers at Johns Hopkins University. And, the spacecraft is still intact. So far. Pluto's moons and the space dust that orbits Pluto pose dangers.

This is a feel-good moment for an industry that has seen the failure of three International Space Station cargo ships—two American, one Russian—in the past 10 months. The most recent was the explosion in June of an unmanned SpaceX rocket carrying supplies.

But it's bittersweet too. The Pluto flyby is the final stop in NASA's mission to explore every planet in our solar system (Pluto wasn't downgraded until seven months after New Horizons launched). The New Horizons team hopes to push out to even farther reaches of the solar system after Pluto, but no grand new expeditions are on the horizon. The phase of exploration embodied by Mariner, Viking and Voyager is coming to a close. The future hinges on a debate involving budgets, risks, priorities, and the roles to be played by public and private enterprise.

As much as we still don't know about space, we can say this with certainty: Amazing discoveries have been made. The boundaries of our knowledge have been extended. Imaginations have been unleashed.

So let's celebrate New Horizons and the people behind it and what we will learn from this remarkable achievement. And let's salute Pluto, the celestial dog finally getting its day.

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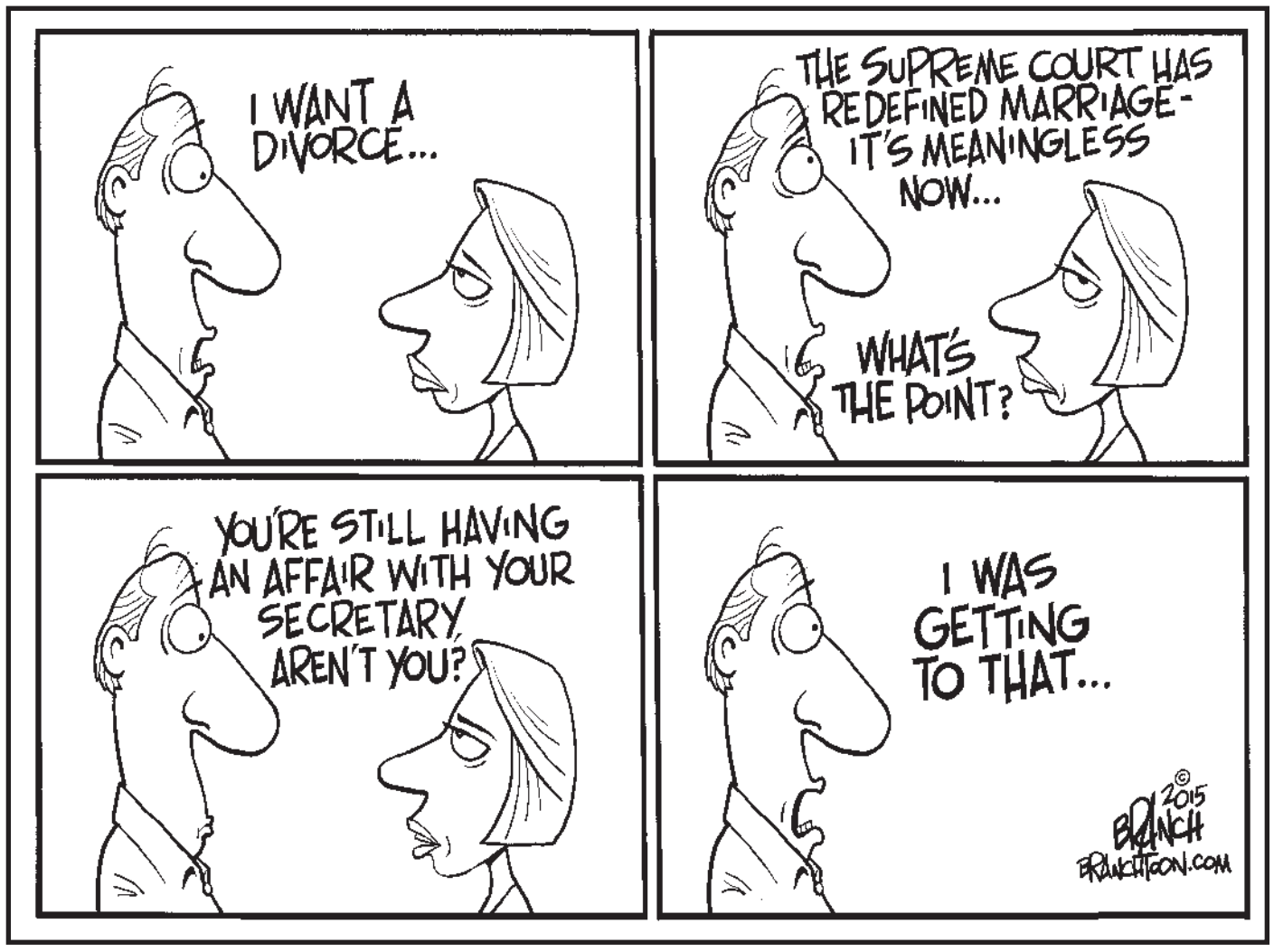
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Internet shutdown

The CNMI's business center came to total paralysis last week when the Internet system shut down completely. It goes to show how indelibly we're reliant upon modern technology in the conduct of daily business. It was sheer chaos on all fronts. Literally, everything stopped!

Paralysis was doubled down by our inability to access timely weather updates on a superstorm approaching the island. We were trapped in fear, quizzing whether Nangka was headed directly toward us and when would it make landfall? Information on the storm's status came a bit too late. This was all attributable to the system's massive failure.

Does IT&E have a more reliable backup system? I mean it has had the 2008 experience, plus free use of public land. What did it do to ensure its antiquated relics are up and running within the hour when its main system crashes into total blackout? The NMI can't afford another fatal or farcical tango with an unreliable system!

The massive costs incurred on both sectors definitely warrant serious review to bringing in another cable company or provider. Healthy competition is good for business and consumers as well. Even more vital is the provision of a reliable communications system. IT&E has proven otherwise!

> Has our culture helped us in this fashion? If the answer is in the affirmative or negative, could you explain your view? I wish to secure realistic answers.

The blackout has resulted in dire economic conditions with losses in the millions for the travel industry and others. Would there be reimbursements from IT&E for such losses?

Finally, though a shock to most folks Marianas-wide, there's also the upside of the Internet total shutter: it granted parents and kids an opportunity to revisit each other in real time conversations for the first time in as many years or since the arrival of iPhones and iPads.

Indigenous culture

It is said that culture provides edification or improvements in the livelihood of a people. In other words, it serves as the foundation where the indigenous people draw their strengths and overall improvements. Has our culture helped us in this fashion? If the answer is in the affirmative or negative, could you explain your view? I wish to secure realistic answers.

The one issue that remains unanswered is the origin of the Chamorro. I know the Carolinian part of my ancestry. I don't know anything about my Chamorro origin. It's a seesaw discussion that never gets anywhere. Are we Malaysians, Indonesians, Filipinos, Singaporeans or a combination of all of the above?

For as long as this issue isn't resolved with finality, the spirit of

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Chamorros deeply yearns or longs to find home. We haven't found home as yet. Our lives are analogous to the bird known locally as "Payaya`," a fowl that floats endlessly before and after vicious storms. And so it seems that we've been floating for the last 500 years, never able to plant our feet on planet Earth.

"First, culture is almost identical to people or nation, as in French or other cultures. Second, culture refers to art, music, literature, educational television, certain kinds of movies—in short, everything that is uplifting and edifying, as opposed to commerce.

"The link is that culture is what makes possible, on a high level, the rich social life that constitutes a people, their customs, styles, tastes, festivals, rituals, gods—all that binds individuals into a group with roots, in a community in which they think and will generally, with a people a moral unity, and the individual united within himself. A culture is a work of art, of which the fine arts are the sublime expression.

"In all of us there is a hunger marrow deeply rooted searching for who we are and where we came from. Without this enriching knowledge there is a hollow yearning. *No matter what our* attainments in life, there is still a vacuum, emptiness, and the most disquieting loneliness.

It's an issue, like most other issues of significance, we've opted to ignore or sleepwalk in grand *mañana*. Is this why we seem transient or nomadic in the way we make decisions, usually far removed from any sense of permanence? Take another look in that pinning it down with finality could enable us to reset our ripped sails once more and move out of the harbor of emptiness with confidence.

The debate on this score is similar to understanding "home" and a "place." My professional job may take me to Dallas or Paris—a place—but Saipan remains home. I may sail away from its shores but this isle is home for me and kids forever!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't blame IT&E

The CNMI's Finance Secretary suggested the other day that the CNMI government should seek damages from IT&E, the local telecom carrier. This is for harm suffered by the government as a result of interruption in local telecom/Internet services. The Secretary should realize that the interruption in the CNMI telecom/Internet service was caused by the two typhoons (Chan-hom and Nang-ka) that passed by the CNMI recently. To require IT&E to compensate the CNMI government for damages caused by the storms would be very unfair. There is also no basis for justification. Let me explain why.

IT&E did not cause the damage suffered from the telecom/Internet service interruption. It was caused by the typhoons, which damaged the underwater fiber optic cable. None of us, including IT&E, has any control over natural disasters. IT&E was a major victim of the typhoons. The storms caused the damage to the fiber optic cable, which in turn caused the service interruption. It was not caused by IT&E. For the CNMI government to now seek compensation from IT&E for damages suffered by the government as a result of the telecom/Internet service interruption caused by the typhoons would add insult to the injury already suffered by IT&E from the damage to its underwater fiber optic cable.

Instead of seeking damages from IT&E, it seems to me that the CNMI government should be doing something constructive to assist the company as it tries its very best to fix the underwater cable and restore telecom/Internet service to the CNMI. IT&E has already lost a lot from the damage caused by the storms. Further, many of us know that IT&E is one of our premier corporate citizens. We conveniently forget that over the years since IT&E took over the local interisland telecom services, it has actively and generously participated in all kinds of civic and charitable activities for the people of the CNMI. Seeking damages now from a company victimized by recent typhoons is a wrong approach to making the CNMI business-friendly.

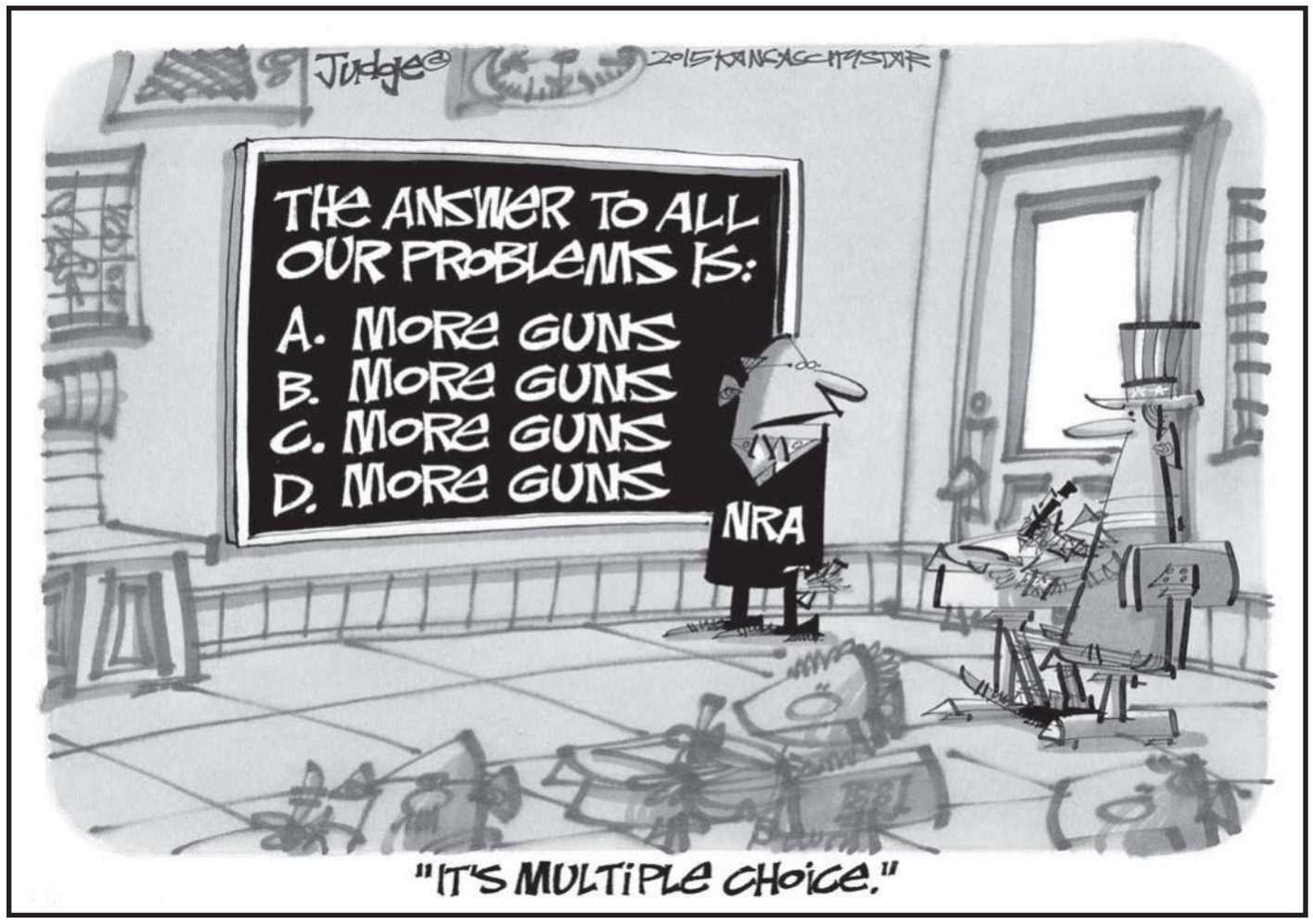
We have seen our leaders, on many occasions, quick to blame others for something that is beyond their control. Many times our leaders fail to fully consider the consequences of their statements. On many occasions, we have seen them react by the "seat of their pants." This is so embarrassing because our leaders were elected (or appointed) to lead and guide us. But instead of doing so, they react without offering any meaningful solutions to the problems that the people of the CNMI are facing.

Had the natural disaster that happened last week been an earthquake (and not a typhoon), where many buildings and structures in the CNMI are destroyed or damaged and where telecom/Internet services are also compromised, I'm quite certain that the CNMI government would not be seeking damages from IT&E. It is, therefore, very unfortunate that IT&E was a major victim of the typhoons that passed by last week. For the Finance Secretary to now suggest that IT&E should be required to compensate the CNMI government and every CNMI citizen is grossly unfair and without basis. It would be like the CNMI government and every CNMI citizen, after every typhoon, asking the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to compensate all of us for interruption in power and water services. But we don't ask CUC to compensate us, because we know that CUC cannot be faulted for the damage caused by a natural disaster, whether earthquake or typhoon.

To our leaders, I plead with you please think before you talk.

En fin Serafin!

Alexandro "Colonel" Sablan
Dandan, Saipan



Legal legend

I recently heard of the sad news of a CNMI legal legend passing away at the age of 85, and I began to reminisce about the days of Presiding Judge Robert Hefner. From the outset of the CNMI in 1978, an incipient government, and the difficult transition from a Trust Territory Court to the Commonwealth Trial Court, and then to the Commonwealth Superior Court, Judge Hefner was a most competent and efficient administrator at a time that was so crucial in assuring the proper guidance and development of a well-functioning judiciary. His legacy in many areas of the court's functions remains today.

One such legacy is so visible today, which is the dress code of attorneys in court. Back in the day, there was no court dress code for attorneys. A few attorneys abused the open attire privilege in court by appearing with attire for a courtroom setting that was improper, like sleeveless T-shirts, unclean shorts, and zories. Judge Hefner decided it was time to increase the degree of professional attire and appearances in the courtroom and set down for a dress code which evolved into a detailed General Court Order in 2000, setting forth prohibitions on inappropriate dress for courtroom appearances. Often, when attorneys appeared without a tie, he would march them back to his small office and have them select one of the several ugly old ties he had there.

Looking out from my office at the old courthouse, built by the Trust Territory Government, and remembering the many court appearances before Judge Hefner, I could not help but think of what would be his reaction to the new bright looking remodeling and paint job of the old, dull, drab gray façade of the old courthouse, which had that same façade and look since it was built at least 45-50 years ago. The grey drab façade is now gone and replaced with a more aesthetic colored façade, thanks to DPS Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, who has been remodeling and painting the old courthouse.

As the frugal administrator that Judge Hefner was, being one of the very few, if not the only, head of a government department or branch who actually had a surplus of unspent funds in his annual budget, he would have appreciated the change from a drab dull grey to a more colorful façade. However, he would most likely have had concern and complained of the cost at taxpayers' expense of having such improvement, but then would be pleased to learn that the workers were provided by DOC at no charge.

My sincere condolences to the family of the late Judge Hefner, remembered for a fine legacy, of judicial guidance and administration, numerous judicial decisions, and a welcome, in memory of him, to the new look of the old courthouse.

Judge David A. Wiseman
via mail

Hardworking detective? Yes

Murders, found (and unfound) bodies, crystal meth dealers and users, marijuana believers, never ending burglaries, robberies, and fisticuffs gone wild? Where's our cops? What's going on? Are we safe? For all the crimes against people and property our community is experiencing and the perceived negligence by DPS, I'd like to believe it is slowly improving. But this I do know: in all of this mess the Criminal Bureau of Investigation as a whole is doing a fine job. CBI is undermanned, overworked, and overwhelmed yet the hardworking detectives, day in and day out, go unheralded. How to fix it?

DPS chief James DL Guerrero is currently begging the lawmakers for FY 2016 budget of $7.2 million. They, in turn, think to shortchange him (again) by proposing only $4.5 million. What the heck? Fix it like this: reduce the desperately seeking legislators' bloated budget ($5.5 million) by half or rent-a-lawmaker status even better; that'll free up, say, $2 million-plus and voila, there's Chief Jimmy's match. How about reducing by millions that $6 millio to Rota. Why? That's the fastest vanishing island on the planet with about 2000-plus residents and getting smaller as I write. Think. They had $4 million last year and some of it blew off paying wages to casino commissioners when no casino existed for over two years! What?! Today, with less inhabitants than last year, they want more? *Hara kiri.* More holes in bucket, if anyone asks you. Waste of public funds in other areas (budgets) is so overwhelmingly bad it's beyond laughable but we won't go there in this commentary.

As for the detectives, Catherine B. Pangelinan, in my book, is one of, if not the, finest in CBI. How do I know? Her swift investigation on my case nailed the thief who stole my stuff and got him arrested and jailed. He now faces charges in court. And, oh yes, in conjunction with my case, I've learned that the islands can look forward to an all new and revitalized Office of the Attorney General and their hardworking and dedicated staff. Need assistance? Go see Heather Barcinas and the other AAGs, they'll do the job you'd expect. Of better things to come? Indeed!

Lee Andersen
via mail

Dear elected CNMI officials

As a private citizen residing on Saipan for the past 20-some years, I am writing to express my frustrations to our elected leaders, especially the Mayor, Mr. David "Chang Tan" Apatang. It is a known fact that the back road leading to the college from District 1 was landscaped beautifully by the late mayor Donald Flores. Subsequently, Mayor Mary Ann Tudela also maintained our road beautification when she assumed the mayorship. Now, sad to say, the current Mayor David "Chang Tan" Apatang completely ignore this part of his responsibility in favor of extra beautification and staff time to his Chinese/Korean connections.

Honorable members of the Legislature, please open your eyes. Do not give any more additional money to Mayor David Apatang since he's not giving attention to this road that is traveled by over a thousand local citizens on a daily basis. If funding is a problem, the mayor and his staff don't need the luxury of having nice uniforms at the expense of many more worthwhile public expenditures, i.e., PSS and CHC. Better yet, cut this amount from the mayor's budget and give it to Parks and Recrreation or Public Works so they can clean and beautify this road even if there are not many Chinese or Koreans using it.

If you honorable gentlemen ignore this important road, it will be a strong ammunition for the next election. Vice Speaker Demapan and Chairman Sablan, wake up and do your part as this is your precinct.

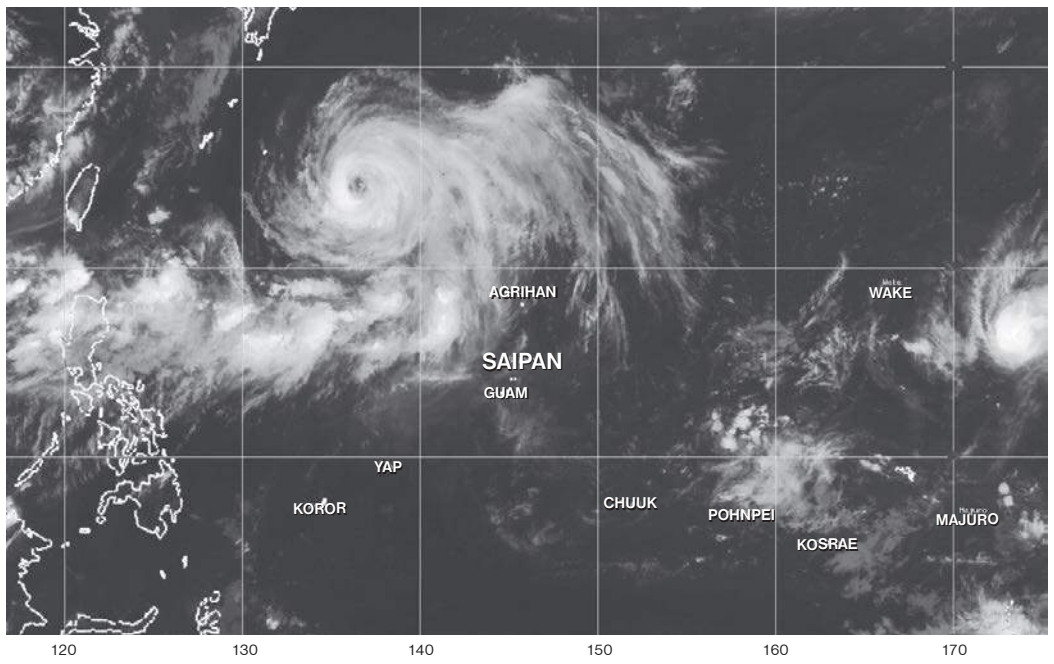
John Pangelinan Aguon
via mail

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northeast winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲88º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º	▲87º ▼77º

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Nangka (11W) is centered 860 northwest of Guam near 23N137E moving north at 8 mph with maximum sustained winds of 110 mph. Heavy rain and thunderstorms are seen near the center between 20N and 25N from 132E to 140E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found farther from the center within 150 miles of a line from 18N130E to 16N136E to 20N142E and north of a line from 20N140E to 20N147E to 25N154E. For more information on Typhoon Nangka, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN33 PGTW and advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ33 PGUM. Tropical Storm Halola (01C) is centered 615 miles east-southeast of Wake Island near 15N175E moving west-northwest at 13 mph with maximum sustained winds of 90 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near the center between 14N and 18N from 173E to 179E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring east of Wake Island around the western and northern sides of Halola within 100 miles of a line from 14N171E to 18N169E to 20N174E to 19N180. For more information on Halola, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A monsoon trough extends east-northeastward from 5N148E through a circulation centered north of Pohnpei at 11N158E to beyond the date line at 9N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present near the circulation north of Pohnpei and between Kosrae and Kwajalein within 100 miles of a line from 12N158E to 7N164E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Palau	Cloudy	▲87	▼79
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼78
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Kosrae	Sunny	▲84	▼78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼78

Around the Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲49	▼41
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲94	▼69
Hong Kong	Showers	▲90	▼78
Honolulu	Windy	▲89	▼75
London	Windy	▲70	▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼60
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲58	▼46
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼79
New York	Thundershowers	▲87	▼71
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼73
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼54
Pusan	Showers	▲77	▼67
Rome	Sunny	▲89	▼71
Salem	Sunny	▲95	▼58
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼57
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼69
Tokyo	Rain	▲74	▼68
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲88	▼73

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:02 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
7:02 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
2:31 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.4 Feet
9:29 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:57 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:58 AM	6:04 PM
Thursday	5:50 AM	6:52 PM
Friday	6:42 AM	7:38 PM
Saturday	7:33 AM	8:21 PM
Sunday	8:22 AM	9:02 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 2, 2015

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Tan Holdings donates $1,000 to Bayani Association

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Tan Holdings corporate consultant Dave Sablan, center, presents a $1,000 donation to officers and members of the Bayani Association.

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tan Holdings on Monday donated $1,000 to the Bayani Association to benefit not only its upcoming Queen of the World Beauty Pageant but also its various programs.

According to Bayani Association president Mario Mayuga, "this is a fundraising. The proceeds will go partly to MVA for the International Festival of Cultures where the Filipino community will also present."

Mayuga said the group will also donate to the *man'amko*. "In our last visit, they said they needed ceiling fans so we will be donating ceiling fans," he said.

The association will also be donating sports equipment to Dandan Middle School.

"We are very happy that Tan Holdings is able to contribute something to the community, for the welfare of the fundraising for which it was intended," Tan Holdings corporate consultant Dave Sablan said. "We are always helping the community in any way we can."

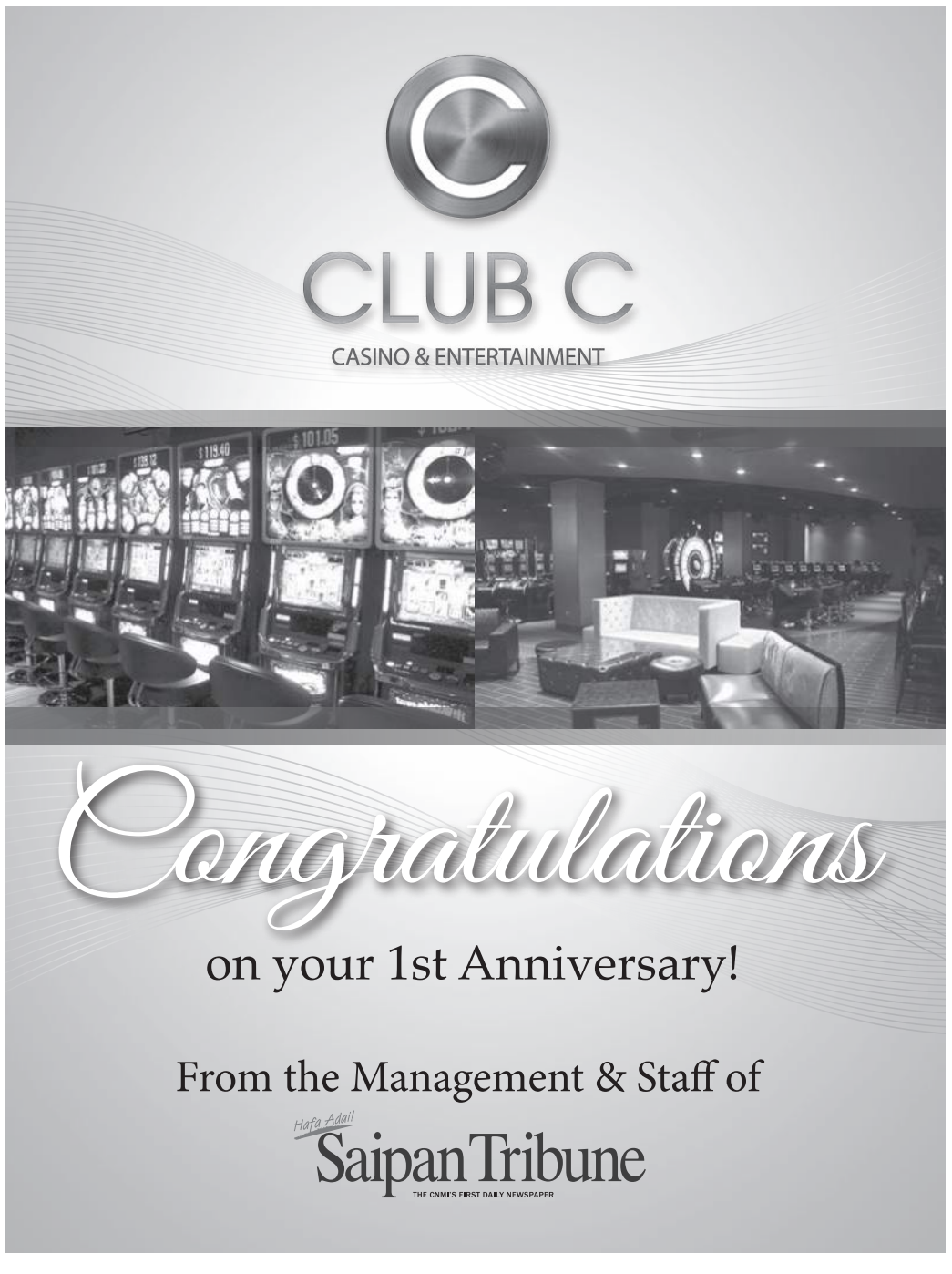
Mayuga said that everything is now ready for their event on Saturday.

"Our judges are excited already," he said.

One judge will come from Los Angeles, another will come from Guam, while three are from the island.

The Queen of the World Beauty Pageant is part of the association's 14th anniversary celebration. It will be held at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Sponsors for this event are IT&E, PHI Pharmacy, JC Marketing Inc., KWAW 100.3 FM, Philippine Consulate General-Guam, Ahbhu Auto Car Care, Gemma Batusin, Guadalupe Sabino, Alpex Saipan Inc., Deo and Lois Manese, Wushin Corp., RNV Construction, Louie and Melba Camacho, Matson Consulting, Jet Holdings Co., Susan's Creations, Jhun and Ladyvir Canape, St. Jude Renal Facility Care, Island Touch by Philip, Beauty Zoned Care, New Paradise Florist, Kanoa Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Mariana Resort & Spa, Happy Market As Lito, Joeten Enterprises, Atoy Banting, St. Trading Co., MGA Business, Dr. Esther Kanayjorn, Traders Insurance, Pacific QuickPrint & Post, 3 HiRes Designs, PC Bargain Store, JOS Corp., Sun Palace Hotel, PIC, KFC/Taco Bell, JFAR Corp. & HBR International Inc., and National Office Supply.



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Member FDIC

1 Miles accrued, awards, and benefits issued are subject to change and are subject to the rules of the United MileagePlus program, including without limitation the Premier® program (the "MileagePlus Program"), which are expressly incorporated herein. Please allow 6-8 weeks after completed qualifying activity for miles to post to your account. United may change the MileagePlus Program including, but not limited to, rules, regulations, travel awards and special offers or terminate the MileagePlus Program at any time and without notice. United and its subsidiaries, affiliates and agents are not responsible for any products or services of other participating companies and partners. Taxes and fees related to award travel are the responsibility of the member. Bonus award miles, award miles and any other miles earned through non-flight activity do not count toward qualification for Premier status unless expressly stated otherwise. The accumulation of mileage or Premier status or any other status does not entitle members to any vested rights with respect to the MileagePlus Program. MileagePlus Program participation may not be permitted in some countries. All calculations made in connection with the MileagePlus Program, including without limitation with respect to the accumulation of mileage and the satisfaction of the qualification requirements for Premier status, will be made by United Airlines and MileagePlus in their discretion and such calculations will be considered final. Information in this communication that relates to the MileagePlus Program does not purport to be complete or comprehensive and may not include all of the information that a member may believe is important, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to all of the information on the united.com website and the MileagePlus Program rules. United and MileagePlus are registered service marks. For complete details about the MileagePlus Program, go to www.united.com.

2 Subject to credit approval. United MileagePlus Business Credit Card cardholders will receive one mile for every $1 of net purchases and one additional mile per $1 of qualifying ticket purchases, made directly through United. Apply by 08/31/15 and if you are approved, receive 10,000 bonus miles upon account opening and an additional 15,000 bonus miles when you spend $3,000 on qualifying purchases within the first three months after your account is opened. $0 introductory annual fee for the first year after account opening; thereafter, the annual fee is $45 per card. Additional limitations, terms and conditions apply. See the United MileagePlus Credit Card Agreement for more information.

Bill seeks to makes 2 years of community college free

» UOG and GCC students would be eligible for proposed program

UOG

Dr. Robert A. Underwood, University of Guam president, left, stands with the Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), Ranking Member, at the U.S. Capitol.

WASHINGTON—Workforce Committee Ranking Member Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA) and U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), a member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and Education, recently joined U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan to announce America's College Promise Act of 2015. The proposed legislation would make two years of community college free and provide an affordable pathway to a four-year college degree for low-income students in minority serving institutions.

The bill provides a federal match of $3 for every $1 invested by the state to waive community college tuition and fees for eligible students before other financial aid is applied. The legislation introduced today also includes covering a significant portion of tuition and fees for two years for low-income students who choose to attend qualifying baccalaureate (4-year) minority serving institutions such as the University of Guam.

"I am honored to have been present at the announcement of the America's College Promise Act," said Dr. Robert Underwood, University of Guam president and chairman of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Association of Colleges and Universities. "This legislation would provide unprecedented access to higher education to our students in Guam and the region."

Underwood has been involved with the legislation for the past few months providing guidance and insight. UOG is a member of the Asian American And Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution Program, and students who attend the university would be eligible for the program.

"I want to thank my former colleague and current President Robert Underwood of UOG for his support of the ACP and for his advice on extending this opportunity to AANAPISI institutions to ensure full inclusion for post-secondary institutions in the island Pacific," said Ranking Member Scott at the announcement.

America's College Promise was originally proposed by President Barack Obama in his 2015 State of the Union speech, with the goal of making community college as universal as high school. ***(UOG)***

Robert Tenorio Torres
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Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. LAURION C. PANGELINAN and VERA T. PANGELINAN Defendants.	))))))))	Civil Action No. 14-0149 NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 14th day of November, 2014, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **29th day of July, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 002 G 61, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 03, the original of which was recorded 14 MAY 90 as Document No. 90-1900 at Commonwealth Recorder's Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. to reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 27th day of May, 2015.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB15-DPS-107
OPENING DATE: JULY 31, 2015 TIME: 11:00 A.M.

"PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF VMware Vsphere WITH OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT ENTERPRISE ACCELERATION KIT VERSION 6 FOR THE CNMI DPS BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLE, SAIPAN"

Copies of the Specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Submission of bid via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com is hereby authorized on this ITB.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO
Commissioner, DPS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CPA TELEPHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-003-15

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is accepting sealed proposals subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (RFP), and other contract provisions, for proposals from interested vendors for the upgrade of CPA's telephone system. The successful proposer shall perform the upgrade of CPA Telephone System with modifications for allowable future upgrades as the need arise at the Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50, Procurement Rules and Regulations of Title 40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC). Title 40, including Chapter 40-50225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The Proposal Package which includes the Scope of Work will be available on Friday, June 5, 2015 and may be obtained at the office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm except CNMI Holidays.

Questions and/or clarifications regarding this RFP, the Telephone System Upgrade and its specifications shall be submitted in writing to MaryAnn Q. Lizama/Executive Director and faxed to 670-234-5962 or emailed to cpa.mqlizama@pticom.com with copy to JoyAnn Deleon Guerrero at email joydlg@cpa.gov.mp no later than Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

A mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on June 22, 2015, at the CPA Airport Conference Room at the Saipan International Airport. Attendance at this conference is mandatory to ensure the proposers' understanding of the project requirements. Proposals submitted by proposers who are not in attendance at this mandatory conference will be rejected.

Sealed proposals must be marked "CPA TELEPHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE, CPA-RFP-003-15" and shall be delivered to the office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport, no later than 4:30 p.m., local time, **WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2015**.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a U.S. Treasury approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Certified or cashier's checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: May 28, 2015

DUE TO NETWORK OUTAGE

Justices require filing of hard copy of all court docs

Since last Wednesday, the CNMI Judiciary's electronic access and communications have been offline as a result of IT&E's network outage.

Because of the problem, Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and associate justices John A. Manglona and Perry B. Inos ordered that until further notice all court documents must be filed in hard copy at the office of the clerks at the CNMI Supreme Court and Superior Court.

The justices said service of court filings normally effectuated electronically is deemed complete upon placement of the filings in the attorney's box at the Superior Court or through personal service.

The justices said routine electronic payments must be posted at the cashier's office at the House of Justice in Susupe, Garapan; at the Department of Finance in Songsong Village on Rota; and at the Department of Finance in San Jose Village on Tinian.

Saipan Tribune learned that mostly affected at the CNMI courts as well as in the U.S. District Court are the e-filings and calendar of hearings. Lawyers' legal research has also been affected. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

THANKS TO THE CNMI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Rota and Tinian residents get job search and hospitality classes

Twenty-two residents of Rota and Tinian participated in a two-day job search and hospitality certification course, under the leadership of Debra Inos, director for the CNMI Women's Association.

Participants learned about the keys to a successful job search and that it takes considerable effort to launch a truly successful job search.

"Conducting a proper job search is hard work and, as you might imagine for those on Tinian and especially Rota, it is even harder. Job opportunities are very limited and residents need to position themselves to be ready for when there is an opening, especially at the Rota Resort and Tinian Dynasty [Hotel & Casino], the two biggest employers," said Jim Arenovski, certified hospitality training and facilitator of the training. "The training that was conducted [on] Tinian and Rota is a great start to position them for hospitality positions. It is now up to the participants to use what they learned."

The course covered the importance of interviewing skills and the need to practice these skills until you are great at answering key interview question comfortably and concisely, including a session on live interview techniques and the do's and don'ts of interviewing.

The course included lectures on communications and effective listening, goal setting and time management as well as customer service. These skills will help them be better prepared for answering questions in their interviews and when they enter the hospitality industry. Each member will get individual feedback on improving their resumes.

Participants ate lunch and participated in tours of the Rota Resort and the Tinian Dynasty on their respective islands. These tours showcased the food and beverage outlets, laundry facilities, guest rooms, and the front desk operation.

"The great part of our tour was getting to visit the 'presidential suite' at the Tinian Dynasty," said one participant.

"I enjoyed seeing the new room renovations at the Dynasty the upgrade is really nice," said another.

Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig and Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas both joined the groups at lunch to show their support for the participants and to encourage them to work hard in their search for employment. Observations were made that there were still many CW1 staff at the hotels and that with hard work and dedication, these groups could see themselves in these position in the future.

The two-day session included the teaching of the American Hotel and Lodging Institute's Guest Service Gold program. The program teaches the softer skills needed for a great hospitality employee, including initiative, anticipating customer needs, delighting the customer, follow through, empathy, and going beyond the job description.

Each participant will get a certificate from Island Training Solution for the Job Search Skills class and those passing the GOLD certification exam will receive their certificate from the American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute.

"Participants who have completed this course are prepared for an entry-level postition in the hospitality industry and are an excellent choice for new job openings, compared to just another applicant off the street," said Arenovski. "The participants now have the basic foundation they need to begin a successful career in hospitality and I urge employers to be on the lookout for applications from these participants and to reach out the NMI Women's Association and the Department of Labor on the two islands about these participants."

"The CNMI Women's Association extends its gratitude to the Tinan and Rota mayors' offices, Department of Labor, and NMC for its assistance in making this training possible. Their generosity and commitment to our effort was greatly appreciated. We are happy to have such great partners in improving the opportunities for our islands residents,"said Inos.

For more information about the CNMI Women's Association and its efforts to improve employability of the NMI residents, contact Inos at 233-8978.

For more information about training for your organization, contact Arenovski at 287-7037. ***(CWA)***

Man finds his car at recycling center and is bitten by a dog

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man was bitten by a dog at a recycling center on Saipan, where he found his missing car after it was allegedly towed without his permission.

Rakibul Islam is now suing Triple Star International Corp. and its president, Wa Gon Xiong, in Superior Court for conversion, trespass to chattels, strict liability, negligence, premises liabilities, and fraud.

Islam, through counsel Michael W. Dotts, wants Triple Star held liable for unspecified damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to contact Triple Star and Xiong yesterday for comments.

According to the complaint, Islam had parked his 1991 Toyota Tercel in his yard on Oct. 14, 2014, when Triple Star towed the vehicle away without his permission and stored it in the premises of the recycling center. In doing so, Dotts said that Triple Star damaged the vehicle.

A neighbor told Islam about the incident.

Islam later found his vehicle at Triple Star, saw that it had been damaged, and told Xiong that the car belonged to him.

Dotts said Xiong acknowledged that Triple Star did not have the right to tow the car away and promised that they would repair the damage and return the car to Islam.

Dotts said that while Islam was on Triple Star's premises he was bitten by a dog.

Relying on Xiong's promises, Islam left without taking the car back and went on to obtain medical care for the dog bite.

Dotts said that between Oct. 14, 2014, and Feb. 27, 2015, Islam repeatedly called Triple Star to find out if the company had already repaired his vehicle.

Islam went back to Triple Star on Feb. 27, 2015, and discovered that the car had still not been repaired, so he took it back. Islam had to pay an auto repair shop for the damage.

Dotts said Triple Star took the car with the intent to sell it as scrap metal. He said Triple Star kept possession of the car after Oct. 14, 2014, with no intention of repairing it and in the hope that Islam would give up and abandon it.

Dotts said as a result of Xiong's negligence, Islam was bitten by the dog and suffered physical, emotional, and other damage.

Register for NMC's fall semester

The Northern Marianas College has announced the following dates, some of which have been updated, for the upcoming fall 2015 semester:

Registration for classes

■ **April 6 – Aug. 14**: Registration for all students via Proa Portal (improved access to Proa Portal available on campus)

■ **August 10-14**: Late registration

Placement Tests

■ **July 27, 28, 29, 30**: 9am or 1pm (Building I)

■ **August 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12**: 9am or 1pm (Building I)

Testing dates and times may be postponed or canceled due to limited internet connectivity on Saipan. Please contact the Testing Center at 237-6774 or 6790 to schedule and confirm your appointment.

Orientation

■ **n July 29, Aug. 5, Aug. 6**: 9am to 2pm: Orientation for new and readmitted students (Room D1). For info contact Queanna Sablan at 237-6790.

■ **Aug. 7, 9am to 2pm:** Orientation for International Students (Building I). For more info, contact ISS Office at 237-6778.

First day of classes: Aug. 17, 2015

For more information about registering for classes or to apply for admission, contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768 / 6769 / 6771. The deadline to apply for admissions for the fall 2015 semester is July 31, 2015. *(NMC)*

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-15-019

NAVY HILL PRESSURE IMPROVEMENT & WATERLINE PROJECT – PART B

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Navy Hill Pressure Improvement & Waterline Project– Part B in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of installation of 4"Ø Distribution line; relocation and reconnection of existing service laterals; installation of new service lateral mains; cut & cap of existing waterlines; booster pump by-pass system; replacement of non-working water meters; and restoration of existing asphalt concrete road. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 150 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **July 10, 2015 at 9:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-15-019, Navy Hill Pressure Improvement & Waterline Project – Part B to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 4, 2015,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen percent (15%) of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one hundred percent (100%) of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred percent (100%) of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurance questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the CUC Board of Directors and Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission approval. If CUC Board and CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 17, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Larry Manacop, Project Manager via email at larry.manacop@cucgov.org, Nicolette Villagomez - nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org, Project Engineer.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JOHN RIEGEL
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

2015-2016 Application For Free School Meals is now available at all public schools and at the Public School System FNS Office

PUBLIC RELEASE STATEMENT REGARDING THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AT LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Public School System Food and Nutrition Services Program today announced its policy for children *unable* to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Regardless of financial standing and participation in programs such as WIC or NAP, ***a new free school meal application must be completed and submitted each school year to receive free school meal benefits.***

Meal prices for the 2015-2016 school year will remain the same as the previous year. Students may buy a subsidized school breakfast for $0.50. Additional breakfasts can be purchased for $2.25 at elementary schools and $2.60 at secondary schools. Students may purchase a school lunch for $0.75. Additional lunches can be purchased for $3.50 at elementary schools and $4.00 at secondary schools.

Application forms are now available at the PSS Food and Nutrition Services Office and are being sent to all public schools with a notice to parents or guardians. Applications are available at Tinian Elementary School and Rota Junior High School as well. To apply for free meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school or to the PSS Food and Nutrition Services office. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year. The application can be downloaded from the PSS website at http://www.cnmipss.org/fns/

To obtain free meals for children for whose households receive Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) benefits, an adult member needs only to list the names of the school children, give a valid food stamp case number for each child, sign his/her name, list his/her social security number, and return the application to the school office.

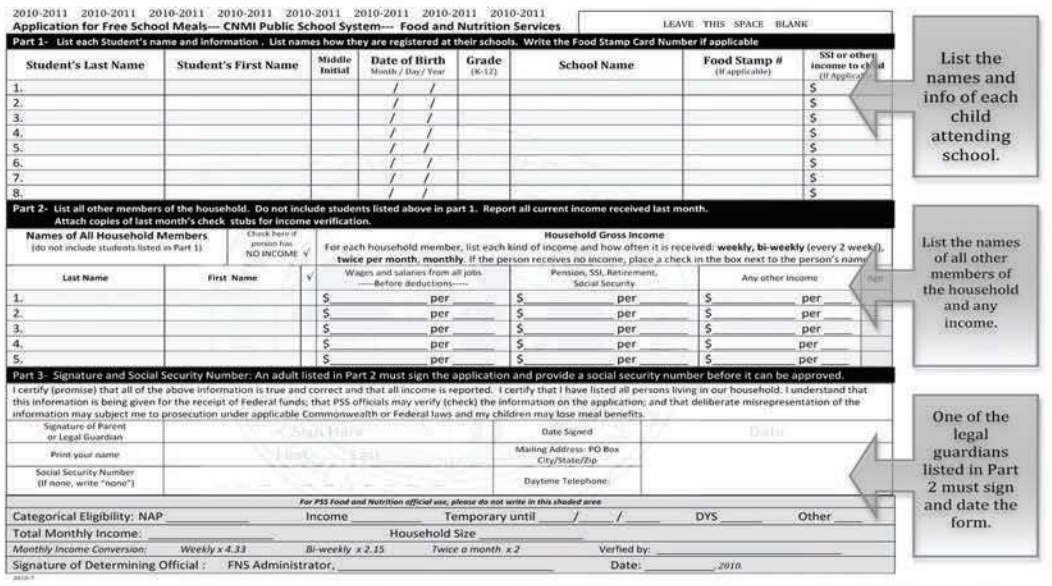
For school officials to determine eligibility for free meals of households not receiving Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) benefits, the household must provide the following information requested on the application: names of all household members, and the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. In lieu of a social security number, the household may indicate that the signer does not possess a social security number. Also, the income received by each household member must be provided by amount and source (wages, SSI, child support, etc.). For verification purposes, copies of the two most recent check stubs must be included with the application. Failure to include these items will delay the processing of the application.

Under the provisions of the free meal policy, the PSS Food and Nutrition Services Manager will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he/she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent/guardian wishes to make a formal appeal, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to: Mr. Dale Roberts, PSS Food and Nutrition Services Program Manager located in government house 1251 located on Capital Hill, Saipan.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the FNS Office. Such changes may make the household eligible for free meals if the household income falls at or below the IEG levels listed in the chart, and they may reapply at that time.

In most cases, foster children are also eligible for these benefits. If a household has foster children living with them and wishes to apply for free school meals, the household should complete an application for a family of one or contact the FNS office for more information.

The information provided by the household on the application is confidential. PSS is authorized to release student free and school meal eligibility status only to persons directly connected with the administration and enforcement of federal or state educational programs.


2010-2011 2010-2011 2010-2011 2010-2011 2010-2011 2010-2011 2010-2011 2010-2011
Application for Free School Meals--- CNMI Public School System--- Food and Nutrition Services
LEAVE THIS SPACE BLANK
Part 1- List each Student's name and information . List names how they are registered at their schools. Write the Food Stamp Card Number if applicable
Student's Last Name
Student's First Name
Middle Initial
Date of Birth Month / Day / Year
Grade (K-12)
School Name
Food Stamp # (If applicable)
SSI or other income to child (If Applicable)
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
List the names and info of each child attending school.
Part 2- List all other members of the household. Do not include students listed above in part 1. Report all current income received last month.
Attach copies of last month's check stubs for income verification.
Names of All Household Members (do not include students listed in Part 1)
Check here if person has NO INCOME
Household Gross Income
For each household member, list each kind of income and how often it is received: weekly, bi-weekly (every 2 weeks), twice per month, monthly. If the person receives no income, place a check in the box next to the person's name.
Last Name
First Name
Wages and salaries from all jobs ----Before deductions----
Pension, SSI, Retirement, Social Security
Any other income
per
List the names of all other members of the household and any income.
Part 3- Signature and Social Security Number: An adult listed in Part 2 must sign the application and provide a social security number before it can be approved.
I certify (promise) that all of the above information is true and correct and that all income is reported. I certify that I have listed all persons living in our household. I understand that this information is being given for the receipt of Federal funds; that PSS officials may verify (check) the information on the application; and that deliberate misrepresentation of the information may subject me to prosecution under applicable Commonwealth or Federal laws and my children may lose meal benefits.
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian
Date Signed
Print your name
Mailing Address- PO Box City/State/Zip
Social Security Number (If none, write "none")
Daytime Telephone
One of the legal guardians listed in Part 2 must sign and date the form.
For PSS Food and Nutrition official use, please do not write in this shaded area
Categorical Eligibility: NAP
Income
Temporary until
DYS
Other
Total Monthly Income:
Household Size
Monthly Income Conversion: Weekly x 4.33 Bi-weekly x 2.15 Twice a month x 2
Verfied by:
Signature of Determining Official : FNS Administrator,
Date:
2010-7

2015-2016 Federal Income Guidelines (IEG) for Free Meal Eligibility. If your household income falls within these guidelines your children MAY be eligible to receive free school meals.

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	2x per Month	Bi-weekly	Weekly
1	$ 15,301	$ 1,276	$ 638	$ 589	$ 295
2	20,709	1,726	863	797	399
3	26,117	2,177	1,089	1,005	503
4	31,525	2,628	1,314	1,213	607
5	36,933	3,078	1,539	1,421	711
6	42,341	3,529	1,765	1,629	815
7	47,749	3,980	1,990	1,837	919
8	53,157	4,430	2,215	2,045	1,023
Add'l member, Add.....	+ 5,408	+ 451	+ 226	+ 208	+ 104

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official.

Children determined eligible for free meals last school year will receive free meals for up to 30 days after the opening of school on August 25, 2015. **To avoid delays in free school meal services due to processing, all applications should be completed and submitted to PSS FNS before September 15, 2015.**

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official. The PSS FNS office can be reached on Saipan: 664-3901 / 3902 or fax 664-3717, Tinian: 237-4106/4105, Rota: 237-4046/4041/4042

Business

Greece: Tsipras faces dissent on bailout deal

BRUSSELS (AP)—With members of his own party openly denouncing a preliminary rescue deal struck with Greece's European creditors, Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras must fight to cling to his government's majority after he was forced to shred election promises and introduce punishing austerity measures in exchange for the bailout.

Tsipras, who flew home Monday from grueling night-long negotiations with European leaders, will chair an executive meeting of his Syriza party early Tuesday before lawmakers begin a two-day debate on the deal - set to heap more tax hikes and spending cuts on a country already suffering through six years of recession.

The deal ensures that Greece avoids an imminent financial catastrophe and an exit from the Eurozone. But Panos Kammenos, leader of the junior partner in Tsipras' coalition government, called the bailout plan a German-led "coup."

"This deal introduced many new issues ... we cannot agree with it," Kammenos said after meeting with Tsipras.

Other Greeks rallied Monday night outside Parliament in Athens, urging lawmakers to reject the new demands.

Around 30 out of Syriza's 149 lawmakers are likely to vote against the government. Many held private meetings late Monday.

AP

Anti-austerity protesters hold flags of their left-wing party during a rally against the government's agreement with its creditors in front of the Greek Parliament in Athens, Monday, July 13, 2015.

Tsipras had to consent to a raft of austerity measures, including sales tax hikes and pension and labor reforms—measures he had campaigned vociferously against over the last five years of Greece's financial crisis.

Since his election in January, the youthful Tsipras has faced intense pressure to backpedal on many of his promises to Greece's exhausted electorate. Finally, faced Sunday by the leaders of the 18 other nations that share the euro and the knowledge that Greek banks were just days away from running out of money, the moment came when he couldn't resist any more.

A series of supposed red lines vanished, including objections to tight international oversight of Greece's economy, continued involvement by the International Monetary Fund in Greece's bailout program and cuts to pensions.

The result of marathon negotiations emerged Monday: about 85 billion euros ($95.1 billion) in loans and financial support for Greece over three years that will preserve its membership in the euro, shore up its banks and allow a modicum of stability to return to the battered Greek economy.

Creditors have also dangled the carrot of a possible future debt restructuring in the event of a smooth bailout.

"We managed to avoid the most extreme measures," Tsipras said.

Marijuana opponents using racketeering law to fight industry

DENVER (AP)—A federal law crafted to fight the mob is giving marijuana opponents a new strategy in their battle to stop the expanding industry: racketeering lawsuits.

A Colorado pot shop recently closed after a Washington-based group opposed to legal marijuana sued not just the pot shop but a laundry list of firms doing business with it—from its landlord and accountant to the Iowa bonding company guaranteeing its tax payments. One by one, many of the plaintiffs agreed to stop doing business with Medical Marijuana of the Rockies, until the mountain shop closed its doors and had to sell off its pot at fire-sale prices.

With another lawsuit pending in southern Colorado, the cases represent a new approach to fighting marijuana. If the federal government won't stop its expansion, pot opponents say, federal racketeering lawsuits could. Marijuana may be legal under state law, but federal drug law still considers any marijuana business organized crime.

"It is still illegal to cultivate, sell or possess marijuana under federal law," said Brian Barnes, lawyer for Safe Streets Alliance, a Washington-based anti-crime group that brought the lawsuits on behalf of neighbors of the two Colorado pot businesses.

Lawyers on both sides say the Colorado racketeering approach is novel.

"If our legal theory works, basically what it will mean is that folks who are participating in the marijuana industry in any capacity are exposing themselves to pretty significant liability," Barnes said.

The 1970 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act sets up federal criminal penalties for activity that benefits a criminal enterprise. The RICO Act also provides for civil lawsuits by people hurt by such racketeering—in this case, neighbors of the two businesses who claim the pot businesses could hurt their property values. If successful, civil lawsuits under the RICO Act trigger triple penalties.

Filed in February, the Colorado lawsuits have yet to go before a judge. But one has already had the intended effect.

In April, three months after the RICO lawsuit was filed, Medical Marijuana of the Rockies closed. Owner Jerry Olson liquidated his inventory by selling marijuana for $120 an ounce, far below average retail prices.

"I am being buried in legal procedure," Olson wrote on a fundraising Web page he created to fight the lawsuit. The effort so far has brought in just $674.

The closure came after the pot shop's bank, Bank of the West, closed the shop's account and was dismissed as a plaintiff.

"Its policy is never to offer accounts to recreational marijuana businesses," the court order said.

And just last week, a bonding company in Des Moines, Iowa, paid $50,000 to get out of the lawsuit.

"We are out of the business of bonding marijuana businesses in Colorado and elsewhere until this is settled politically," said Therese Wielage, spokeswoman for Merchants Bonding Company Mutual.

The case of the mountain pot shop shows that racketeering lawsuits can affect the marijuana industry even if the lawsuits never make it to a hearing.

"This lawsuit is meant more to have a chilling effect on others than it is to benefit the plaintiffs," said Adam Wolf, Olson's lawyer.

In the other Colorado lawsuit, against a dispensary called Alternative Holistic Healing, the pot shop isn't going down so easily.

Nation

Little Pluto bigger than scientists thought as flyby looms

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—Little Pluto is a little bigger than anyone imagined.

On the eve of NASA's historic flyby of Pluto, scientists announced Monday the New Horizons spacecraft has nailed the size of the faraway icy world.

Measurements by the spacecraft set to sweep past Pluto on Tuesday indicate the diameter of the dwarf planet is 1,473 miles, plus or minus 12 miles. That's about 50 miles bigger than previous estimates in the low range.

Principal scientist Alan Stern said this means Pluto has a lower density than thought, which could mean an icier and less rocky interior.

New Horizons' 3 billion-mile, 9 1/2-year journey from Cape Canaveral, Florida, culminates Tuesday morning when the spacecraft zooms within 7,767 miles of Pluto at 31,000 mph.

Mission managers said there's only one chance in 10,000 something could go wrong, like a debilitating debris strike, this late in the game. But Stern cautioned: "We're flying into the unknown. This is the risk we take with all kinds of exploration."

"It sounds like science fiction, but it's not," Stern said as he opened a news conference at mission headquarters in Maryland. "Tomorrow morning a United States spacecraft will fly by the Pluto system and make history."

Discovered in 1930, Pluto is the last planet in our solar system to be explored. It was a full-fledged planet when New Horizons rocketed away in 2006, only to become demoted to dwarf status later that year.

New Horizons has already beamed back the best-ever images of Pluto and big moon Charon on the far fringes of the solar system.

"The Pluto system is enchanting in its strangeness, its alien beauty," said Stern, a planetary scientist at Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado.

With the encounter finally at hand, it all seems surreal for the New Horizons team gathered at Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory. The energy there Monday was described as electric.

Project manager Glen Fountain said New Horizons, at long last, is like a freight train barreling down the track, "and you're seeing this light coming at you and you know it's not going to stop, you can't slow it down."

"Of course, the light is Pluto, and we're all excited," Fountain said.

Pentagon announces plan aimed at lifting transgender ban

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Pentagon's current regulations banning transgender individuals from serving in the military are outdated, Defense Secretary Ash Carter said Monday, ordering a six-month study aimed at formally ending one of the last gender- or sexuality-based barriers to military service.

Carter said he is creating a working group that will review the policies and determine if lifting the ban would have any impact on the military's ability to be ready for battle. But he said the group will begin with the presumption that transgender people should be able to serve openly "without adverse impact on military effectiveness and readiness, unless and except where objective, practical impediments are identified."

The plan, which was first reported by The Associated Press, gives the services time to methodically work through the legal, medical and administrative issues and develop training to ease any transition, and senior leaders believed six months would be sufficient.

"The Defense Department's current regulations regarding transgender service members are outdated and are causing uncertainty that distracts commanders from our core missions," Carter said in a statement released Monday. "At a time when our troops have learned from experience that the most important qualification for service members should be whether they're able and willing to do their job, our officers and enlisted personnel are faced with certain rules that tell them the opposite."

Carter asked his personnel undersecretary, Brad Carson, to lead the working group of senior military and civilian leaders to take an objective look at the issue, including the costs, and determine whether it would create any insurmountable problems that could derail the plan. The group would also develop uniform guidelines.

Report: Many immigrants re-arrested after detainers declined

LOS ANGELES (AP)—More than 1,800 immigrants that the federal government wanted to deport were nevertheless released from local jails and later re-arrested for various crimes, according to a government report released Monday.

The Immigration and Customs Enforcement report—obtained by an organization that actively opposes illegal immigration—said the re-arrested immigrants were among 8,145 people who were freed between January and August 2014 despite requests from federal agents that they be held for deportation.

A fatal shooting in San Francisco has heated up a long-running debate between those who want police to help immigration agents to enhance public safety and those who say holding immigrants too long is unconstitutional and erodes community trust.

More than 250 jurisdictions across the country -including some formally designated as sanctuary cities, such as San Francisco—have stopped fully honoring so-called immigration detainers, saying they can't hold arrestees beyond their scheduled release dates without probable cause. California and Connecticut have passed state laws to limit the use of detainers and jails in states from Oregon to Iowa also refuse to honor the requests.

In the report provided by the Washington-based Center for Immigration Studies, the top crimes for which immigrants were re-arrested were drug violations and drunken driving. The report also cited six examples related to more serious offenses, including a San Mateo County case in which an individual was arrested for investigation of felony sex crimes involving a child under 14. It was not immediately clear whether the individuals in these cases were re-arrested for crimes committed after they were released from jail or older violations. ICE did not comment on the findings in the report.

"This is a genuine safety problem, and also a crisis for immigration enforcement," said Jessica Vaughan, the center's director of policy studies.

The controversy was re-ignited after 32-year-old Kathryn Steinle was shot to death while walking on a San Francisco pier and authorities arrested suspect Juan Francisco Lopez-Sanchez, who was released from jail in April even though immigration officials had lodged a detainer to try to deport him from the country for a sixth time.

San Francisco Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi has argued he was upholding local law and that detainers are not a legal way to keep someone in custody. Immigrant advocates said immigration agents already have information about who is in local jails, and they can make the arrests on their own.

Asia

China urges PH to ditch its South China Sea case

BEIJING (AP)—China urged the Philippines on Tuesday to ditch its attempt to solve South China Sea territorial disputes with an international tribunal and instead negotiate with Beijing directly, following the arbitration panel's latest request for input from China.

The Philippines has asked the tribunal in The Hague to declare China's claims to virtually all the South China Sea invalid, saying Beijing's actions have trampled on other nations' rights.

China contends the tribunal doesn't have jurisdiction, and has refused to participate. The tribunal, which operates under the U.N. Convention of the Law of the Sea, held a weeklong hearing ending Monday to address China's contention. It said that Beijing has until Aug. 17 to comment on the hearing, and that it should make a ruling on the issue this year.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying on Tuesday reiterated China's opposition to the arbitration, and said China "will never accept the unilateral attempts to turn to a third party to solve the disputes."

"China urges the Philippines to come back to the right track of resolving disputes through negotiation and consultation," she said in a statement.

The Philippines praised the tribunal's effort to prod China again to join the case, saying the five-man arbitration body has been fair and transparent in its handling of Manila's complaints against Beijing.

"We have asked China to participate and we continue to extend the invitation for them to explain their side," Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman Charles Jose said by phone in Manila.

China, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam and Taiwan have been contesting ownership of the resource-rich South China Sea. The United States and other countries have expressed concerns over China's island-building in the region that they say has been provocative and has damaged vast coral reefs in the disputed waters.

Beijing says fears that it would eventually limit freedom of navigation and overflight to back its claims are unfounded.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Stampede kills at least 22 during India religious festival

HYDERABAD, India (AP)—A government official says at least 22 people have been killed and 10 others injured in a stampede during a Hindu religious bathing festival in southern India. Arun Kumar, a state administrator, says the stampede occurred in Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh state on Tuesday as tens of thousands of people pushed forward to bathe in the Godavari River during the Pushkaralu festival. Police say the stampede was triggered by some pilgrims who were trying to retrieve their shoes, which had fallen off in the rush to the river bank, police said. Festival participants believe a bath in the river can rid them of their sins. Deadly stampedes are fairly common during Indian religious festivals, where large crowds gather in small areas with few safety or crowd control measures.

S. Korean police say professor fed former student feces

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean police said Tuesday they've detained a university design professor for allegedly forcing a former student to eat human feces and subjecting him to other cruel acts. The alleged violence began after the professor hired the ex-student in 2013 as an employee at a design-related organization that he runs, according to a statement from Seongnam Jungwon police station just south of Seoul. The professor and three other employees, also all former students, allegedly beat the victim with a baseball bat and other weapons over what they said were professional mistakes and poor character. The three accomplices have also been detained. The defendants also allegedly placed plastic bags over the victim's head before firing pepper spray inside them and forced him to eat their feces and drink their urine from plastic bottles on 16 different occasions, police said.

Islamic State claims Afghan leader alive after US airstrike

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Islamic State group released an online audio clip Monday they claim came from the leader of an Afghan affiliate that authorities there say was killed in a U.S. airstrike. The Associated Press could not identify the man speaking in the clip as Hafeez Sayeed, whom Afghanistan said died Friday in an airstrike in Nangahar province that killed more than 30 militants. The U.S. has said it conducted an airstrike there Friday, without elaborating. Abdul Hassib Sediqi, a spokesman for Afghanistan's National Directorate of Security, said Saturday that the strike killed Sayeed. Sediqi offered no photographs or other evidence, though he said Afghan authorities verified a corpse from Friday's strike was Sayeed. Friday's strike comes after Afghan officials earlier said another U.S. airstrike killed the affiliate's second-highest official, Gul Zaman, and six others, including a former Pakistani Taliban spokesman named Shahidullah Shahid who earlier had joined the group.

Cosmos Distributing Co., Ltd. Is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

Sales Representatives (2)
Associate's degree in Sales & Marketing or Accounting with minimum of 3 years experience in sales. Proven skills in product marketing and providing excellent customer service are required. Must be proficient in MS Excel and Word for preparation of reports and Outlook for email. Must provide for his/her own reliable transportation for out-of-office work activities and must also be able to meet monthly sales targets. Applicant needs to be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Extensive contacts in various businesses and industries are advantage. Available to work on evenings, holidays, weekends.

Sales Representative – Hospitality Industry and Lubricants
A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful sales record. Preferably with Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing. Sales experience with hotel, F&B, and restaurants together with knowledge of their inventory and supply operations an advantage. Knowledge of petroleum lubricants is a plus. Proven good track record in product marketing and excellent customer service are required. Must be proficient in MS Excel and Word for preparation of report and Outlook for email. Must provide for his/her own reliable transportation for out-of-office work activities and must also be able to meet monthly sales targets. Applicant needs to be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Extensive contacts in various businesses and industries are advantage. Available to work on evenings, holidays, weekends.

Business Operations Manager
Graduate of 4-year Business or Accounting course and at least 5 years of progressive management experience in wholesaling and product distribution. Minimum of 5 years general management experience in warehouse, sales, purchasing and distribution activities. Must be proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, MAS90/Sage Accounting Software and Microsoft software. Must have a solid track record in meeting business objective.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experiences. For applications to be considered, they should be sent to hrd@cosmosdistributing.com not later than July 25, 2015.

Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Board of Directors
Northern Marianas Humanities Council

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) wishes to announce a vacancy on its board of directors.

The Council is a non-profit private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities and to actively participate in fundraising activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually;
- Raising funds for Council programs;
- Recruiting community partners;
- Promoting awareness about the Council's mission and its programs in the community;
- Attending Council programs and activities;
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Providing input about the humanities from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the Council.

Applicants are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to **Robert H. Hunter, Chair, Northern Marianas Humanities Council at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950** or delivered to the Council's office located in the Springs Plaza Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, **August 14, 2015**. For additional information, please contact the Council's Executive Director, Scott Russell, at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
YANO Enterprises, Inc.

Assistant Manager (1): Be able to assist the general manager in the supervision of business establishment to ensure the restaurant & stores efficiency & profitable operations; work closely with the personnel in preparation & processing of reservations, greets & answers customers inquiry, patrons complaints & resolve problems. Prepare advertising campaigns of the restaurant & stores to attract customers. Assist in doing daily inventory of foods, merchandise and assets of the business. Duties include but are not limited to delegating authority & assigning responsibilities, reviewing financial transactions & monitoring budget limitations, & be able to present written & oral reports on the company's financial & operational status. Must have Japanese oral skills & knowledge of Japanese food products.

Restaurant Supervisor (1): Must be qualified in restaurant operations, customer service, menu planning, & reservation operations. Must be responsible for the supervision of staff as to dining areas cleanliness in appearance & outside grounds. Ensure any customers issues are addressed immediately and resolved in a manner which exceeds the customer's expectation. Also need to have basic Japanese oral skills. Must have an extensive knowledge of Japanese food products & be able to make orders & preparations.

Accountant (2): Must be efficient in handling financial records, statements, & reports. Have knowledge on all Taxes computation & filing. Must be able to budget & estimate purchasing costs & requisitions of merchandise necessary in the company.

Restaurant Waitress (5): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Cook (4): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

General Maintenance (3): Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing , repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.
Applicants of positions listed above except Restaurant Waitress (3 months work experience) are required to have a minimum of 2-4 years experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. No phone calls please.

World

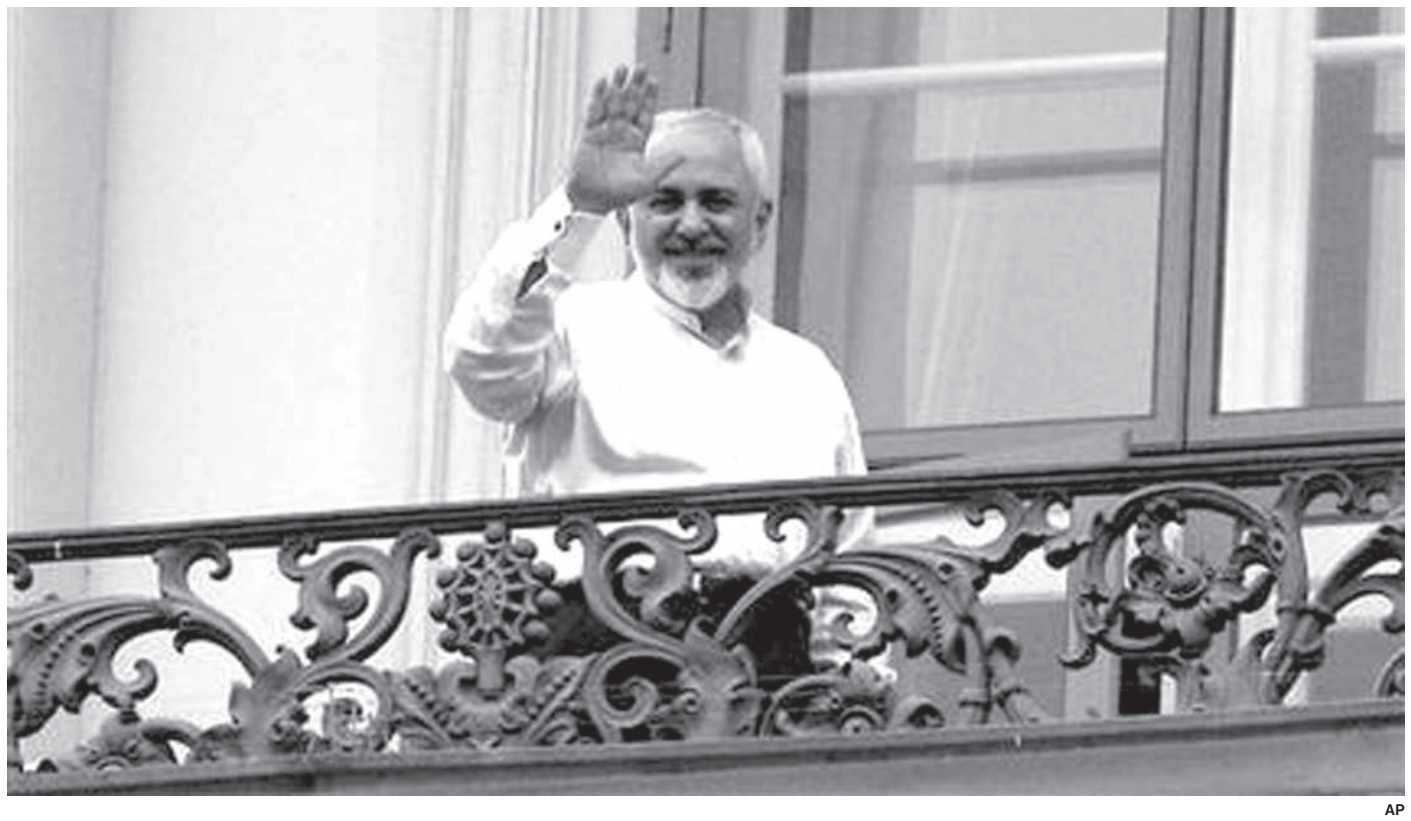
Formal nuclear deal has been reached with Iran

VIENNA (AP)—A landmark Iran nuclear agreement was reached Tuesday after clearing final obstacles, and a senior diplomat said it included a compromise between Washington and Tehran that would allow U.N. inspectors to press for visits to Iranian military sites as part of their monitoring duties.

But access at will to any site would not necessarily be granted and even if so, could be delayed, a condition that critics of the deal are sure to seize on as possibly giving Tehran time to cover any sign of non-compliance with its commitments.

Under the deal, Tehran would have the right to challenge the U.N request and an arbitration board composed of Iran and the six world powers that negotiated with it would have to decide on the issue.

Still, such an arrangement would be a notable departure from assertions by top Iranian officials that their country would never allow the U.N's International Atomic Energy Agency into such sites. Iran has argued that such visits by the IAEA would be a cover for spying on its military secrets.



AP

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif waves to journalist from a balcony of the Palais Coburg where closed-door nuclear talks with Iran continue in Vienna, Austria, Monday, July 13, 2015.

On Tuesday morning, the European Union announced that the final plenary of Iran and the six countries negotiating with it will take place at 10:30 Vienna time, followed by a news conference. A Western diplomat said they will endorse the deal, reached in the early morning hours. He demanded anonymity because he was not authorized to comment on the confidential talks.

While access is a key part of monitoring envisaged cuts on Tehran's present nuclear activities, it is also important for the IAEA as it tries to kick-start nearly a decade of stalled attempts to probe allegations that Iran worked on nuclear arms. Washington says that Iran must cooperate with the IAEA's probe as part of any overall deal before all sanctions on it are lifted.

The Iranians insist they have never worked on weapons and have turned down IAEA requests to visit sites where the agency suspects such work was going on, including Parchin, the military complex near Tehran where the agency believes explosives testing linked to setting off a nuclear charge was conducted.

Iran's acceptance in principle of access to military sites will give the agency extra authority in its attempts to go to the site and its demands—previously rejected by Tehran—to interview scientists it suspects were involved in the alleged nuclear weapons work.

Any deal will go to the U.N. Security Council, which is expected to endorse it by the end of the month, to start the mechanics of implementation—long-term, verifiable limits on Iranian nuclear programs that could be used to make weapons in exchange for an end to sanctions on the Islamic Republic.

Malala: 'Stingy' world must boost aid to Syrian refugees

AZRAQ REFUGEE CAMP, Jordan (AP)—Rich countries should spend less on weapons in the Syrian civil war and more on education, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai said Monday, calling world leaders "quite stingy" as she toured a camp for the conflict's refugees.

Malala, a champion for girls' education rights, was joined in Azraq camp by Mezon al-Melihan, a 17-year-old refugee who has been urging girls to stay in school. Malala and Mezon, an Azraq resident, walked hand-in-hand through the camp, made up of rows of white, prefabricated shelters that's home to close to 20,000 refugees. The teens spoke to school girls, played on a swing set and kicked around a soccer ball.

Since the 2011 outbreak of Syria's conflict, more than 4 million Syrians have fled their country, most settling in neighboring countries such as Jordan. Aid agencies asked for $4.5 billion for 2015 to help refugees, but have been forced to slash support programs because of large funding gaps. Studies have indicated that growing numbers of refugee children are working to help support their desperate families. Early marriage among refugee girls also is on the rise.

Malala, who rose to fame after being shot by the Taliban in her native Pakistan in 2012 for insisting on her right to education, said the world must do more to help the refugees.

AP

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai, 18, speaks during her visit to Azraq refugee camp in Jordan, Monday, July 13, 2015.

"There are rich countries in this world, there are world leaders who can afford spending money on weapons, who can afford spending money on the war that is going on in Syria," she said in a speech at the Azraq community center. She said these countries and leaders have been "quite stingy" when it comes to spending on education and that shifting resources to schools is "the only way we can achieve success."

"This is why we are here to ask world leaders to treat the rest of the world's children as their own children," she added.

She later told The Associated Press that she has been inspired by education rights campaigners such as Mezon, whom she first met last year in Zaatari, another camp in Jordan. In December, Mezon attended the Nobel ceremony in Oslo at Malala's invitation.

Syrian refugee children face many challenges, Malala said in an interview. "Many young girls they get married at a very young age, boys—their parents send them for child labor" because the adults can't find work, she said.

Malala, who lives with her family in Birmingham in Britain, celebrated her 18th birthday on Sunday while opening a school for Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

Asked about her plans for the future, now that she is an adult, Malala said: "I want to get more familiar with British culture and live there for a few years, so I think for a bachelor's (degree) I should stay at Oxford and for a master's I should go to another country."

She said her activism keeps her busy and that "I don't have time to think of anything else."

DEA documents show 'El Chapo' began escape plots in 2014

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico's most notorious drug trafficker began plotting to break out of prison almost immediately after his recapture at a seaside resort in February 2014.

Internal Drug Enforcement Administration documents obtained by The Associated Press reveal that drug agents first got information in March 2014 that various family members and drug-world associates of Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman were considering "potential operations to free Guzman."

The DEA alerted Mexican authorities 16 months ago about the plans, said a U.S. official briefed on the investigation. The official was not authorized to disclose the details and insisted on anonymity to do so.

Mexican Interior Secretary Miguel Angel Osorio Chong denied Monday night that authorities in Mexico were ever informed of potential escapes.

"They themselves have told us that they don't know where that information came from," he said referring to U.S. counterparts and the AP's report.

The Mexican government announced that it is offering a 60 million-peso ($3.8 million) reward for Guzman's recapture and that it has fired three prison system officials, including the director of the prison where Guzman escaped. Forty-nine people have been questioned by the government's organized crime unit, including 32 prison employees.

Widely considered the world's richest and most powerful drug trafficker before his capture last year, Guzman slipped down a shaft from his prison cell's shower area late Saturday and disappeared into a sophisticated mile-long (1.5 kilometer-long) tunnel with ventilation, lighting and a motorcycle apparently used to move dirt.

Romania prime minister indicted in corruption investigation

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP)—Romanian prosecutors indicted Prime Minister Victor Ponta on Monday as part of a wide-ranging corruption investigation and seized his assets, increasing pressure on him to resign.

Prosecutors said Ponta has been indicted on charges including tax evasion, money laundering, conflict of interest and making false statements while he was working as a lawyer in 2007 and 2008. At the time, Ponta was a lawmaker. He denies wrongdoing.

Prosecutors also said in a statement Monday that they temporarily froze Ponta's personal assets which include shares in a house, an apartment and several bank accounts. He sold two apartments in May for 150,000 euros ($170,000) and also sold a car.

Ponta, who took office in 2012, is the first sitting Romania prime minister to be indicted and have his assets seized.

He said in a televised interview that he had already handed over one of his apartments to prosecutors and said he would not resign.

"It would be a betrayal," he said on the Antena 3 channel. "If I resigned, I would give the power back to those who destroyed Romania," he said, referring to the center-right opposition who governed until 2012.

Prosecutors said the probe, which has no time limit, is ongoing and the prosecutor in charge of the case will decide whether the case is sent to trial.

The accusations against Ponta include forging expense claims worth at least 181,000 lei ($45,000) from the law firm of political ally Dan Sova. Prosecutors say he pretended he worked as a lawyer to justify getting money from the law firm. The funds were used to pay for two luxury apartments and the use of an SUV. Prosecutors say that after Ponta became prime minister in May 2012, he appointed Sova a minister three times.

Ponta, 42, who is recovering from a knee operation, was questioned at the offices of anti-corruption prosecutors on Monday morning. He walked up the steps on crutches into the building and he emerged about 30 minutes later, but declined to respond to prosecutors' questions, citing his right to remain silent.

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) ACCOUNT ANALYST
Minimum of three (3) years related work experience and one (1) year supervisory experience, preferably in hospitality. Degree in accounting is required; CPA preferred; Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office (Word and Excel) and must be knowledgeable in using Opera and MAS 90; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) ACCOUNTANT
Minimum of three (3) years work experience, preferably in hospitality. Degree in accounting required. Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office (Excel) and must be knowledgeable in using Opera. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ACCOUNTING MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience plus three (3) years of supervisory experience, preferably in hospitality industry. A Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance from an accredited college or university is required. CPA certification is preferred; Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, Powerpoint) skills are required. Knowledge in using Opera System, MAS 90 system (General Ledger, Accounts Payable, Purchase Order, Inventory Management modules), Kronos Payroll System and Web Cash management system. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) AIR CONDITIONING AUTO MECHANIC
Minimum of four (4) years of relevant work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ASSISTANT ENGINEERING MANAGER
Minimum of three (3) years of Engineering industry experience at a hotel plus two (2) years of supervisory experience. a Vocational degree or an Associate degree in Electrical Engineering or combination and/or related experience in the Engineering field is required. Technical knowledge and proficiency on electrical, plumbing and boiler operations is preferred. Excellent interpersonal skills ands the ability to support a 24hrs business are also essential. Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office (word and excel). Must be able to work in a flexible schedule which includes early mornings, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ASSISTANT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years of I.T. industry experience and Bachelors degree in IT related field required. Thorough knowledge of all software and hardware is required, this includes all Microsoft Windows desktop and Server Operating Systems, Microsoft application support, Opera System, SQL 2008 administration skills, Symantec Product experience with Ghost, ACT! And corporate anti-virus software, Access database, Crystal Report XI and report design skills with IIS, ASP and HTML Skills. Linux skills and Active Directory experience is highly desirable. Experience in the use of electronic mail (mail relays, spam filters and mail integrity) and Internet protocols (e.g. TCP/IP, PPP and IMAP). Sound knowledge of routers, firewalls, network security, network configuration and construction, switches and fiber is required. Applicant should have in depth knowledge of VPN, VPN encryption, PC and server hardware, new PC and server installations, configuration and support of IP Phone Systems, System backups and general network administration. A+, Network +, and/or MCP certification are also highly desirable. Must have excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to support a 24hr business.

(1) ASSISTANT PASTRY COOK
Minimum of two (2) years of related experience with bread making, pastry making and cake decorating. Must have previous experience in high volume production including large banquets, functions and special events. High School Diploma or higher is required. Must be able to work early mornings, nights, weekends and holidays.

(2) ASSISTANT RESTAURANT MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years restaurant and/or hotel food and beverage experience required, plus have a minimum of three (3) years of experience working in a supervisory role in Food & Beverage. Proficient with the use of Microsoft Office and the use of Micros point-of-sale systems. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) BAKER
Minimum of three (3) years of related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) BANQUETS CAPTAIN
Minimum of 18 months related work experience, plus one (1) year supervisory experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(5) BARTENDER
Minimum one (1) year work experience; Must be at least 21 years old. Ability to speak Chinese, Korean, Russian or Japanese is preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR
Minimum of five (5) years of bartender experience, with at least one (1) year of supervisory experience in a similar role. Must be at least 21 years old. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BUILDING MAINTENANCE
Minimum of three (3) years related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BUILDING MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
Minimum of three (3) years of related experience working in a similar role at a hotel, plus one (1) year supervisor experience required. A High School diploma or higher is required. Any combination of education and related work experience will be considered. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BUTCHER
Minimum of one (1) year related work experience as a butcher. Must be able to cook, marinate, roast and process all meat, fish and poultry products. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(4) CARPENTER
Minimum of three (3) years work experience as a cabinet maker and finishing carpenter. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) CHEF DE PARTIE
Minimum of three (3) years working in a similar capacity in a hotel, plus one (1) year of supervisory experience. Must have good management and organizational skills. Must have the ability to work independently and within a team, and have the ability to work well under pressure. Must have excellent communication skills. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(2) COOK
Minimum of one (1) year related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING
Minimum of ten (10) years of Engineering industry experience managing diesel operation and repairs for a hotel plus five (5) years management experience is required. A Bachelors degree in Engineering is required. Must possess technical knowledge and experience on 3516 and 3512 Caterpillar Generators, 85 KW aqua design desalination plants, chiller systems, pumps, filtration systems for swimming pools and reverse osmosis systems are required. Must be certified Reserve Osmosis (RO) Operator Level 2 in water treatment and Level 1 in water distribution system. Must have knowledge and experience in handling Diesel Plants and Reserve Osmosis (RO) Operations. Must have technical knowledge and experience on SMARDT Oil less and Screw type Chillers System. Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to support a 24hour business. Proficient and knowledgeable in the use of Microsoft Office (word and excel). Must be able to work in a flexible schedule which includes early mornings, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ELECTRICAL SUPERVISOR
Minimum of one (1) year of relevant experience working in a similar position at a hotel, plus one (1) year of supervisory experience is required. Vocational degree, an Associate degree, diploma in Engineering or any combination to its equivalent in the Engineering field is required. OSHA Certified and knowledge in handling hazardous materials is required. Must be able to work in a flexible schedule which includes early mornings, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ELECTRICIAN
Minimum of five (5) years work experience. Must be able to work shifts, weekends, and holidays.

(1) ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN SUPERVISOR (SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT & ACTIVITIES DEPT)
Minimum of five (5) years of proven experience in the electrical/electronic fields and the ability to demonstrate high proficiency in these areas is required. A thorough knowledge of electrical / electronic components and equipment including the use of special instruments for diagnostic purposes is required. Skill-level requirements vary from troubleshooting to board- or component-level repair. Willing to work any shift and overtime as required. Applicants must be versed in all aspects of the "Clubmate" position. Strong communication, interpersonal and customer service skills are essential. The position requires the ability to work under pressure and time constraints. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

(1) EXECUTIVE SOUS CHEF
Minimum of ten (10) years of progressive experience in high volume food production or catering in multi-unit restaurant Hotel or Resort environment. Experience in preparing multi-ethnic cuisine is required. Must have at least five (5) continuous years of management experience in a similar role. Must have the following: strong leadership/communication skills at all levels of the organization. Exceptional guest focus and proven positive employee relations skills a must. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(4) FOOD SERVER CAPTAIN
Minimum of 18 months related work experience, one (1) year supervisory experience required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(6) FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR
Must have at least three (3) years related work experience in Food & Beverage service, two (2) years of supervisory experience, plus one (1) year relevant work experience in coordinating events; Supervises employees engaged in serving foods in restaurants and maintaining cleanliness of food service areas and equipment; must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR
Minimum of two (2) years previous experience as a Front Desk Supervisor is required. Must be resourceful, take ownership of problems and issues that arise and have excellent problem-solving skills. Must have the ability to work well under pressure and to lead a team. In addition to managing the daily operations at the desk, must have the ability to provide the Front Desk Clerks with necessary training and support. Fluency in Korean, Japanese or Russian is preferred. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) GARDENER
Minimum of three (3) years of work experience. Must have working knowledge of landscaping. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) GUEST SERVICE SUPERVISOR
Minimum of two (2) years supervisory experience plus experience driving large passenger vehicles are required. Must be at least 18 years of age, possess a valid CNMI driver's license, and pass a medical exam and substance abuse test. Must provide a traffic clearance with application. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) GUEST RELATIONS
Minimum of one (1) year hospitality experience. Must have the ability to solve guest concerns and cash handling. Must be able to speak, read and write in English and one or more of the following languages: Korean, Russian, Japanese or Chinese. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(3) HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR (ROOMS)
Minimum of two (2) years housekeeping supervisor experience required (minimum 300-room hotel). Motivated self starter with the ability to clean rooms as required. Responsible for checking up to 70 rooms per shift. Must have the ability to bend, lift, carry & move items weighing 50 pounds. Must be able to stand for long excess hours. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) HVAC TECHNICIAN
Minimum of four (4) years related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) KOREAN COOK
Must have at least a minimum 2 years of related experience with Korean cuisine and ingredients. Must have previous experience in high volume production including large banquets, functions and special events. High School Diploma or higher is required. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

(1) LANDSCAPING SUPERVISOR
Minimum of two (2) years of related work experience in a similar role working at a hotel plus two (2) years of supervisory experience in a similar role. A High School diploma or higher is required. Must be able to utilize or operate landscaping tools and equipment. Previous experience in executing landscaping-related project is required. Must be able to work in a flexible schedule which includes early mornings, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) MUSICIAN (3-pc band)
Minimum of two (2) years experience as a musician. Must be able to perform music in English as well as Japanese/Korean/Russian. Need to be able to play a variety of music genres, classical, pop, rock, reggae, country etc. Must be able to play on an individual, duo and trio basis. At least one member must be a classical pianist, playing classical music during restaurant dining hours. Must be able to host events, MC events, be able to promote audience participation during sing-a-long shows. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays. Subject to audition.

(1) NIGHT AUDITOR
Minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience and academic background with major in Accounting Business knowledge on the basic functions of debits and credits. Knowledge on hotel-related systems particularly on front-office systems and point-of-sale systems of the hotel industry. Strong knowledge of Excel and must be knowledgeable in using Opera System and Micros System; Familiarity on how the hotel settlement system works (cash, room charge, credit card transaction or similar). Must be able to work from 11:00pm to 7:00am; May involve shift work, including working on weekends and holidays.

(2) PAINTER
Minimum of three (3) years related work experience as a painter. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(2) PASTRY COOK
Minimum of two (2) years of relevant work experience working in pastry for a hotel. Associate's degree in Culinary Arts. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) PLUMBER
Minimum of five (5) years related work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) POOL MAINTENANCE
Minimum of two (2) years related work experience. Previous HAZMAT training preferred. Shift begins at 2:00 a.m. daily. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) POOL MAINTENANCE CAPTAIN
Minimum of two (2) years related work experience working at a hotel in a similar role is required. A High School diploma or higher is required. Previous HAZMAT training is preferred. Shift begins at 2:00 a.m. daily. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(3) POWERHOUSE OPERATOR
Minimum of three (3) years related work experience. Certified Water Treatment & Distribution operator preferred. Must be a certified Class A/B UST operator. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) PURCHASING CLERK
Minimum of one (1) year of administrative and clerical related work experience, preferably in Purchasing or Procurement in a hotel setting. Preferred experience in Custom clearance process. Job requires a valid CNMI Driver's License. Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office (Excel). Must be able to lift minimum of 50 pounds. Experience using MAS90 is preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) PURCHASING MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years of management experience required, preferably in hospitality industry. Plans, directs, or coordinates the activities of buyers, purchasing officers, and related workers involved in purchasing materials, products, and services. Ability to use supplier / vendor metrics (specifications) and must have clear understanding of commodity strategies. Experience with activities, including but not limited to supporting Engineering requirements, tracking upcoming orders (lead time) and processing custom & shipment requirements. Capability to execute and manage issues to support daily business needs. Degree in finance or business is required. Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office and knowledge in using MAS 90 system (Accounts Payable, Purchase Order, Inventory Management modules) are required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) RESTAURANT MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years restaurant and/or hotel food and beverage experience required. Minimum of two (2) years previous F&B Leadership experience required. Minimum of two (2) years of Banquet leadership role required. Previous experience in a first-class, medium to large resort preferred. This position monitors the daily operations of each restaurant function to ensure a positive guest experience and will profitably manage the overall operations of the restaurants. Will manage all service aspects of food and beverage functions in accordance with the policies of the hotel. Excellent written and oral communication skills are necessary. Must be knowledgeable of banquet set-ups, policies and procedures. Must have experience in budgeting and managing banquet operations. Must be able to successfully coordinate staff and resources in high volume, time sensitive environment. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holiday.

(4) ROOM ATTENDANT
Minimum of one (1) year of experience as a room attendant for a hotel. Motivated, self-starter responsible for cleaning up to 18 rooms per shift. Must have the ability to bend, lift, carry & move items weighing 50 pounds. Must be able to stand for long excess hours. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) SALES & MARKETING MANAGER (KOREAN MARKET)
Minimum of three (3) years of hotel industry experience, plus one (1) year of Korean Market sales management experience. Must be proficient in speaking, reading and writing the English and Korean languages, and be proficient with the use of Microsoft Office. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) SOUS CHEF
Minimum of three (3) years of relevant experience working in a similar role for a hotel or resort environment. Experience in preparing multi-ethnic cuisine is required. Must have good knowledge of food production, food safety standards and have the ability to train and lead a team. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) STEWARD SUPERVISOR
Minimum of two (2) years stewarding experience plus two (2) years supervisory experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(5) TEPPANYAKI COOK
Minimum of five (5) years of related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) UTILITY AIR CONDITIONER MECHANIC
Minimum of two (2) years work related experience in a hotel setting. Assist HVAC Supervisor in performing preventive and regular repairs and maintenance for the hotel's HVAC. A high school diploma, vocational degree or Associates degree is required. Any combination of education and related work experience will be considered. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, August 3rd, 2015.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Life & Style

Harper Lee's attorney recalls finding Watchman manuscript

NEW YORK (AP)—Harper Lee's attorney has provided her fullest accounting yet of how she came upon the manuscript for "Go Set a Watchman," which comes out Tuesday.

She is also raising the possibility of a third book by the author of "To Kill a Mockingbird," a suggestion challenged by a leading biographer.

In an op-ed piece posted late Sunday on the Wall Street Journal's web site, Tonja Carter wrote that last summer she was at a gathering of Lee's friends and family members when "talk turned" to a possible second novel by the author of "To Kill a Mockingbird." According to Carter, it was the first time she had heard of the book's existence. She then searched in a safe deposit box that contained some of Lee's papers and found "Watchman" underneath "a significant number of pages of another typed text."

"I immediately went to Nelle," Carter wrote, referring to Lee's first name, which she is often called by. "I said, "'Nelle, when I was in the safe-deposit box, I found something.' She said, 'What?' I said, 'It's a manuscript of a novel called 'Go Set the Watchman.' She said, "It's 'Go Set a Watchman.' "

"I asked, 'Is it finished?' Nelle replied, 'I guess it's finished, it's the parent of 'Mockingbird.'"

Calling herself Lee's "estate trustee, lawyer and friend," Carter also disputed recent reports that she had learned of "Watchman" a few years earlier, during a review of some of Lee's papers that included a Sotheby's appraiser and then-Lee attorney Samuel Pinkus. Contradicting statements by Pinkus, Carter said she was not in the room at the time "Watchman" might have been discussed and that no one mentioned the book to her.

Lee sued Pinkus in 2013, alleging that he had "duped" her into signing over the copyright of "Mockingbird." They settled months later.

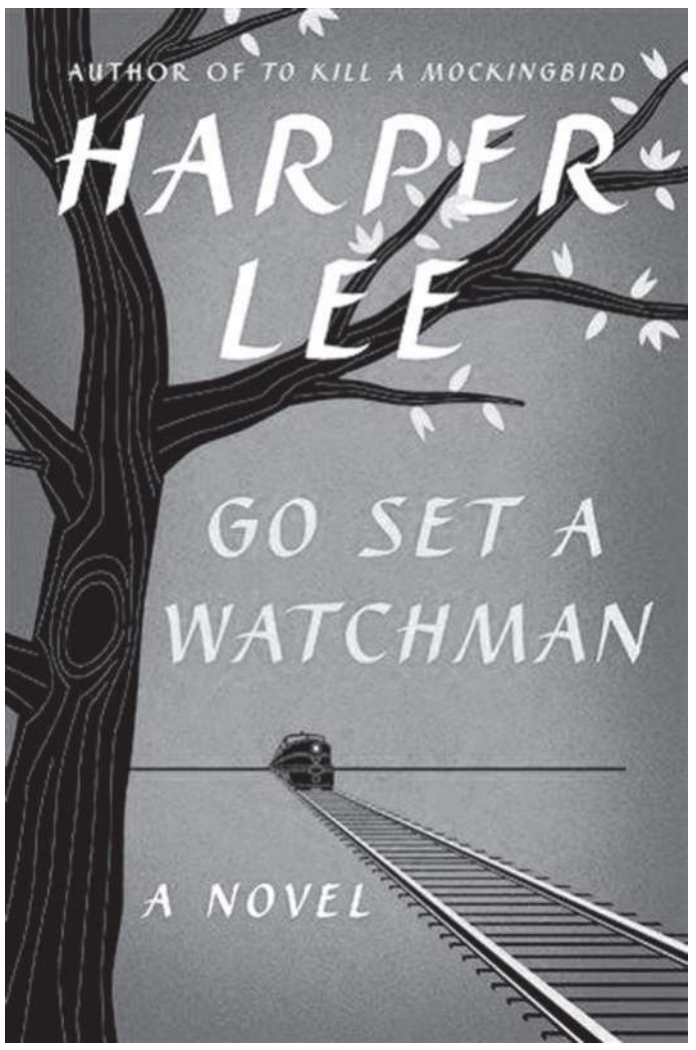
Until Sunday, Carter had said little about "Watchman." Set in Lee's fictional Maycomb, Alabama in the 1950s, "Watchman" was written before "Mockingbird," but takes place 20 years later. Lukewarm reviews and reports of the book's raw account of an elderly, racist Atticus Finch have not prevented "Watchman" from holding the No. 1 spot on Amazon.com's best-seller list. "Mockingbird," published in 1960, was No. 2 as of midday Monday.

Carter has been the object of skepticism since February, when HarperCollins revealed the stunning news that a second novel from Lee would be released. Many wondered whether the 89-year-old Lee, who has poor hearing and eyesight and lives in an assisted facility in her native Monroeville, had approved the publication. Alabama state officials, responding to at least one complaint, met with her and concluded she was alert and aware of the book's release.

At the end of her op-ed piece, Carter suggested that the "typed text" in the box of papers could be an early "Watchman" draft or a third book "bridging" the stories of "Mockingbird" and "Watchman." Lee's literary agent, Andrew Nurnberg, has previously said that he has seen old letters between Lee and her then-agent that indicated "Mockingbird" was part of a planned trilogy.

"In the coming months, experts, at Nelle's direction, will be invited to examine and authenticate all the documents in the safe-deposit box," Carter wrote.

Charles J. Shields, author of "Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee," said Monday that he had never seen any indication that Lee was working on a trilogy.



AP

This book cover released by Harper shows "Go Set A Watchman," a follow-up to Harper Lee's "To Kill A Mockingbird." The book will be released on July 14.

'I Am Jazz': A transgender girl plus a family that loves her

NEW YORK (AP)—Like many 14-year-old girls, Jazz Jennings goes to school, plays soccer, hangs out with friends, has a thing for mermaids and loves social media, kind of wishes her tummy were a little bit flatter, and lives life feeling good about herself.

She's also transgender. She was assigned male at birth yet was sure as young as 2 years old that she was a girl. She transitioned into Jazz at 5.

Since being interviewed on ABC's "20/20" by Barbara Walters at age 6, Jazz Jennings has emerged as a leading advocate, role model and explainer for the transgender community. She wrote a children's book about her life. She makes heart-to-heart YouTube videos that get hundreds of thousands of views.

Now she's opening the door to her everyday routine on "I Am Jazz," an 11-episode unscripted series premiering on TLC on Wednesday at 10 p.m. EDT. (An illuminating companion piece: the recent documentary "Growing Up Trans," available on the "Frontline" website.)

"I think it's going to be a great thing," says Jazz, a remarkably poised young woman with big brown eyes and a dazzling smile, during a recent interview. "We're just the average family, being ourselves. We love one another. But it also shows how we handle the fact that I'm transgender—how we embrace it and move forward."

Family includes Jeanette and Greg, her parents, sister Ari, 19, and her 17-year-old twin brothers Griffen and Sander, with whom Jazz shares a comfortable home in South Florida (the family doesn't say just where, or disclose its real surname, for security purposes).

AP

In this July 8, 2015 photo, transgender teen Jazz Jennings, 14, left, poses with her mother Jeanette in New York.

The series doesn't soft-peddle the challenges the family has faced.

Jazz started hormone blockers about three years ago to ward off male puberty, and two years ago began estrogen treatments. It's a delicate drug regimen that, in the first episode, Jeanette acknowledges is "experimental stuff. I am messing with my kid's body."

In another telling scene, Jazz and her mother are chatting at an outdoor cafe when a teenage boy brushes past and blurts out, "Trannie freak." Jeanette is suitably enraged, but Jazz shrugs. She's heard it before.

"I face most of my discrimination from the boys," she tells her gal pals during a bedroom confessional, "because they think they're gay for liking another 'boy.'"

And when Ari takes Jazz to buy a swimsuit, she confides she doesn't really like shopping: "I have to look at it a little bit differently because of 'my area.' Also, when I'm swimming I have to make sure I'm wearing skirts or shorts over the bikini bottoms so that no one will see anything."

With admirable grace, Jazz has settled, early on, what likely is the audience's most pressing question, however misguided it may be.

"Everybody thinks it's what's between your legs that matters," she says during the interview. "But what really matters is what's between my ears. It's my brain that makes me a girl, makes me feel like a girl, makes me know that I'm a girl."

Yes, surgery is an option down the road.

"But it's not about the medical stuff," Jazz says. "It's about knowing who you are and embracing that."

That is what "I Am Jazz" is really about: Someone who, from infancy, has known who she is, born to a family that gave her full support in its expression. Everyone should be so lucky.

"I am proud of the fact that I'm transgender," Jazz declares, "because it shaped the person that I am today."

"She's faced a lot of discrimination in her short life," says Jeanette, who has joined Jazz for the interview. "But she handles herself with dignity and pride."

"People say that I was just born with a natural confidence," Jazz responds. "But I think because my family has showered me with love and support right from the start, I've been able to display that confidence throughout my life."

That confidence hasn't ignited a scramble for celebrity, she insists.

"You might look at me and think I'm lying, like: `Deep down, she wants to be famous.' But I'm not the type of person who loves all the attention. This isn't about me. It's about my message. The main thing I promised myself: I'm not gonna get caught up in the fame that might occur from the show.

"But now comes the hard part: when everybody sees it."

Things may or may not change for Jazz and her family in the spotlight. But what's clear to her is that big changes are afoot for the transgender community.

She thinks back nine years, when, at her birthday pool party, she went public as Jazz, a girl in a little girl's swimsuit.

"Back then, we never thought things would occur so fast. It's awesome to be able to see the change occurring in front of you.

"I do get stressed out," she concedes. "Sometimes things feel overwhelming. But I just have to be happy and live life in the moment. And I'm going to keep sharing my story until it's needed no more and it's not a big deal."

The Mirage volcano in Las Vegas to erupt less frequently

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The Mirage volcano on the Las Vegas Strip is erupting less frequently, but not for any geological reason.

The man-made volcano that has been spewing fire and water since the hotel's 1989 opening, a first-of-its-kind attraction, will now offer two to three nightly shows as the Strip's topography continues to evolve.

Before Monday, the volcano erupted every half-hour beginning at about dusk until midnight, wind permitting.

"With the variety of offerings on the Las Vegas Strip today, in contrast to 25 years ago, it made sense to us to reduce the number of shows in a way that wouldn't diminish the visitor experience," according to a statement from MGM Resorts Inc., which owns The Mirage casino-hotel.

The company will monitor how much money the change saves, how much it will cut energy consumption and the reaction of visitors, company spokeswoman Mary Hynes said. There's nothing in the works to change the frequency of the company's Bellagio fountain show, she said.

The volcano is scheduled to erupt at 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. An additional 10 p.m. show will be offered Friday and Saturday.

The Strip evolved into something more akin to a theme park when casino mogul Steve Wynn debuted the volcano at The Mirage, which was followed by a fiery pirate ship battle in front of the Treasure Island and the now-iconic fountain show in front of the Bellagio.

Since then, the Strip has never stopped evolving, said David Schwartz, director of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' Center for Gaming Research.

"I think what gets people inside is shifting," Schwartz said of what drives a tourist to venture from the sidewalk into a casino. There are simply more entertainment options, he said.

Large-scale free entertainment outside of the area's casinos has diminished in recent years, but street-facing restaurants and retail, where money can be made, have cropped up.

Treasure Island was sold in 2009, and the pirate battle disappeared nearly two years ago.

After becoming the owner of The Mirage, MGM spent $25 million in 2008 upgrading the volcano with more fire choreographed to a pounding drum-beat soundtrack. At the time, executives said the challenge continued to be getting the show's numerous watchers to walk inside the casino to spend money.

50 Cent files for bankruptcy protection after losing lawsuit

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—The rapper 50 Cent, known for the album "Get Rich or Die Tryin','" has filed for bankruptcy.

The artist, whose real name is Curtis Jackson III, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Hartford on Monday, days after a jury ordered him to pay $5 million in an invasion-of-privacy lawsuit. He owns a 50,000-square-foot mansion in nearby Farmington.

The filing lists both the assets and liabilities for the rapper and actor as between $10 million and $50 million and indicates his debts are primarily consumer and not business related.

The filing comes after a New York jury on Friday ordered Jackson to pay $5 million to a woman who said he acquired a video she made with her boyfriend, added himself as a crude commentator and posted it online without her permission.

The jury this week was scheduled to deliberate on possible further, punitive damages in Lastonia Leviston's invasion-of-privacy lawsuit against Jackson. But the filing may put the trial on hold. Jackson did not appear as scheduled Monday to testify about his finances because of the bankruptcy filing, his lawyer said.

"Mr. Jackson's business interests will continue unaffected in the ordinary course during the pendency of the Chapter 11 case," attorney William A. Brewer III said in a statement. "This filing for personal bankruptcy protection permits Mr. Jackson to continue his involvement with various business interests and continue his work as an entertainer."

The lawsuit stems from a 13-minute video that appeared online in 2009, featuring a wig-wearing 50 Cent as a narrator dubbed Pimpin' Curly. He makes explicit remarks about the images and taunts rap rival Rick Ross, who isn't in the video but had previously had a daughter with Leviston. At the time the video surfaced, Ross and 50 Cent were trading barbs via video, lyrics and interviews.

Jackson got the tape from the man in it, Leviston's boyfriend at the time. The rapper said that he didn't actually post the video but that Leviston's then-boyfriend said she wouldn't mind if he did.

A message seeking comment on the bankruptcy filing was left for Leviston's attorney.

50 Cent burst to the fore of gangsta rap with 2003's "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" its lead single, "In Da Club," and a tough life story that included having been shot nine times.

Jackson is an admitted former crack dealer who has built an empire beyond entertainment. He invested early in Vitamin Water and has expanded his business interests into clothing and audio equipment.

Now 40, he has gone on to become an actor whose credits include the Starz network action series "Power" and the upcoming boxing movie "Southpaw."

He also was named by Forbes in May as one of hip-hop's five wealthiest artists for 2015.

He bought his 17-acre home in Connecticut from boxer Mike Tyson in 2003 for $4.1 million. The house includes 19 bedrooms, more than two dozen bathrooms, a gym, billiard rooms, racquetball courts and a disco complete with stripper poles.

It had been listed for sale in 2009 for $10.9 million, but is no longer on the market.

AP

In this May 17, 2015 file photo, 50 Cent arrives at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

2 women who testified against Cosby seek transcript release

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Two of Bill Cosby's accusers joined a court bid Monday to have his full testimony from a 2005 sexual-battery lawsuit unsealed.

Beth Ferrier and Rebecca Neal say the deposition excerpts released last week mention them but don't paint the whole picture.

Lawyer Gloria Allred, speaking on their behalf at a news conference in Los Angeles, says they want to challenge defense comments that Cosby's accusers have been "discredited."

The women's lawyers filed the papers in Philadelphia, where they were "Jane Does" supporting a former Temple University employee who said Cosby had drugged and molested her.

The newly released excerpts show Cosby acknowledging he got quaaludes in the 1970s to give women before they had sex.

The Associated Press typically does not name people who say they are sexual-assault victims. Ferrier and Neal have authorized the use of their names.

More than two dozen women have accused Cosby of sexual misconduct in the past four decades, and many alleged that he drugged and raped them. The 77-year-old comedian, who has never been charged with a crime, has denied some accusations while declining to comment or respond to the others.

AP

Attorney Gloria Allred, center, with clients, Rebecca Neal, left, and Beth Ferrier, right, two of Bill Cosby's accusers have who testified against Cosby in 2005 sex assault suit, announce they have joined a court bid to have Bill Cosby's full testimony from a 2005 sexual-battery lawsuit unsealed, during a news conference in Los Angeles on Monday, July 13, 2015.

A phone message left for Cosby's attorneys in Philadelphia wasn't immediately returned.

Ferrier noted that excerpts released by a judge in Pennsylvania last week referenced her case but include Cosby's denials of her claims. She said it's important that his entire testimony be made public to challenge comments that Cosby's accusers have been discredited.

Ferrier said she believes Cosby slipped a drug into her coffee when she visited with him in Denver.

"In the recently released excerpts of his deposition, Bill Cosby admits that he was with me in Denver and that he, quote, `probably had sex with me,'" Ferrier said at the news conference Monday.

"It is important for the world to know the truth about how Bill Cosby hunted me like a predator," she said. "My refusal of his constant advances fueled his desire and eventual drugging-rape ritual."

Ferrier's lawyer, Joyce L. Collier, said in the motion that "Cosby has made multiple public statements claiming that women who have accused him of sexual assault have been `discredited' and that the allegations are merely `innuendo' ... Unsealing the complete deposition transcripts of defendant's deposition will allow plaintiff and other Jane Doe witnesses to defend themselves from defendant's despicable attempts to discredit them."

Neal, another Jane Doe who came forward to support former Temple University employee Andrea Constand in the 2005 lawsuit, filed a separate petition.

She said she was accosted by Cosby in 1986 after she met him while working as a masseuse at a Las Vegas health club where she would frequently give him back rubs.

"The betrayal of trust from this famous celebrity was so traumatic," she said. "I thought who would believe me that Bill Cosby was a serial rapist that used drugs to assault unsuspecting young women?"

Cosby, according to a 2005 motion filed by his lawyer, had testified that he did not remember meeting Neal or recall the incident she described to police. However, he said he knew "of no reason why Ms. Neal would fabricate such a story," according to the defense motion.

Coroner: No evidence B.B. King was poisoned before death

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The coroner in Las Vegas says there's no evidence blues legend B.B. King was poisoned before he died of natural causes in May.

Clark County Coroner John Fudenberg (FYOO'-den-berg) said Monday that an autopsy sought by two of the musical icon's 11 adult children shows the cause of death was Alzheimer's disease with other physical conditions.

Daughters Karen Williams and Patty King alleged through their attorney that King's business manager, LaVerne Toney, and his personal assistant, Myron Johnson, hastened their father's death.

Brent Bryson—a lawyer for King's estate, Toney and Johnson—called the claims defamatory and libelous.

The coroner's ruling closes the official investigations of King's death.

He died May 14 in hospice care at home in Las Vegas at age 89.

Teen booklet will help parents start conversation about sex

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: Do you have any information or advice on how to talk to my 12-year-old stepdaughter about sex? I have a pretty good idea about where to take the conversation. I don't plan to make it a big deal—not so serious as to scare her, but not too lighthearted either. You never know what kids are saying about it in school these days. I want her to know the door is always open should she need to talk. (My mother did that with me, which I appreciated.)

If you have any pointers or reading material suited for her age, that would be great.

STEPMOM IN TEXAS

DEAR STEPMOM: I'm glad you are opening up the subject because "the talk" with your stepdaughter should have started long ago as part of an ongoing discussion. For a variety of reasons, young people today mature much earlier than they did years ago. She should be told that, if they haven't already started, the changes that will take place in her body are normal and nothing to fear.

As for reading material, my booklet, "What Every Teen Should Know" can help you to start that conversation. It has been distributed in doctors' offices and used to promote discussions by educators and religious leaders, as well as parents who find it hard to discuss these topics with their children. You can order one by sending your name and address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. You should review it before starting the conversation so you will be prepared in advance to answer her questions. The more information you can give her, the better prepared she will be to make intelligent decisions in the future.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a 25-year-old, well-educated woman, engaged to a wonderful man. Although we don't plan to wed for another couple of years, I have a question on my mind. Neither of us is traditional or religious. What should I do about my name?

My fiance would be honored if I took his name, but wouldn't be insulted or hurt if I didn't. For a long time I had thought that hyphenating would be an appropriate solution, but the more I consider it, a long double name on everything I will have to sign might become an inconvenience. I don't dislike his last name or have strong feelings against taking it, but I like the name I have now. Part of me likes the idea of always carrying it.

Since children are not going to be part of the equation, there's no risk of confusing them or their teachers. What do other young couples do? I would love an outside perspective.

NAME GAME IN KANSAS

DEAR NAME GAME: It is no longer unusual for women to retain their maiden names after marriage. Many choose to do it because they have become established/successful in their careers, others because they want to maintain their identity as an individual.

Some women solve the problem by using their husband's name legally and retaining their maiden name professionally. Others use their maiden name as a middle name and their husband's last name. Please don't worry about this; you have time to make your final decision.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

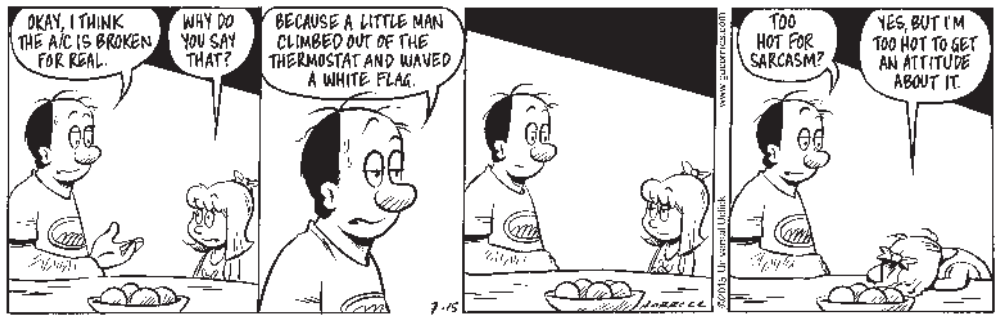
By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OKAY, I THINK THE A/C IS BROKEN. FOR REAL.
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
BECAUSE A LITTLE MAN CLIMBED OUT OF THE THERMOSTAT AND WAVED A WHITE FLAG.
TOO HOT FOR SARCASM?
YES, BUT I'M TOO HOT TO GET AN ATTITUDE ABOUT IT.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

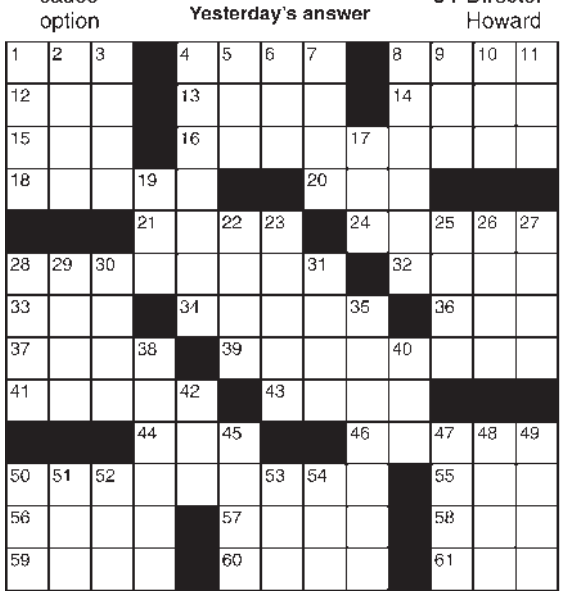
ACROSS
1 Med. watchdog org.
4 Baseball's "Georgia Peach"
8 Church section
12 Long. crosser
13 Finished
14 Polynesian figurine
15 Commotion
16 Conduit of a sort
18 Phi Beta —
20 Pair
21 Singer Guthrie
24 Perfumery compound
28 Entree
32 Carryall
33 Illustrations
34 Arrangement
36 "CSI" evidence
37 BBQ sauce option
39 Dawn or Joy
41 Improvise
43 Moby-Dick's pursuer
44 Common bit of Morse code
46 Nonclergy
50 Afternoon TV entry
55 Raw rock
56 Ginormous
57 Shakespeare's river
58 Goose egg
59 Latin listender
60 Tailless cat
61 Bribe

DOWN
1 Criticism
2 Word from the nursery
3 On
4 "— die many times before their deaths"
5 Lab eggs
6 Stake
7 Raised
8 Maximally
9 Actress Zadora
10 Tackle moguls
11 Aachen article
17 Regret
19 Skillet
22 Committed perjury
23 Town at the mouth of the Tiber
25 — list
26 Sicilian volcano
27 Harvest
28 2-Down's counterpart
29 Saharan
30 "— never work"
31 "Quiet!"
35 Troop group
38 Scatter
40 Govt. lender
42 Greet the villain
45 Junk email
47 Molecule parts
48 Small band
49 Business-review website
50 That woman
51 No longer chic
52 — Khan
53 Mendes or Longoria
54 Director Howard

Solution time: 21 mins.

G	I	F	T	■	E	Y	E	R	■	R	U	B
O	L	I	A	■	T	O	F	U	■	O	R	E
D	O	U	G	H	N	U	I	S	■	U	S	E
■	■	■	G	E	A	R	■	T	O	G	A	S
A	F	T	E	R	■	■	E	L	A	H	■	■
C	L	O	D	■	B	E	V	E	R	S	A	L
I	O	U	■	P	O	W	E	R	■	H	O	E
D	E	G	R	A	D	E	S	■	P	O	N	E
■	■	H	O	L	E	■	■	A	L	D	E	R
M	A	L	T	A	■	R	O	S	E	■	■	■
E	M	U	■	C	O	U	G	H	D	R	O	P
T	I	C	■	E	V	I	L	■	G	I	L	L
A	R	K	■	S	A	N	E	■	E	D	D	Y

Yesterday's answer



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Diane Kruger, 39; Brian Austin Green, 42; Jason Bonham, 49; Forest Whitaker, 54.

Happy Birthday: Greater focus on mastering your skills and picking up additional knowledge will lead to solid opportunities to advance professionally and personally. Networking will play a major role in your advancement. Family members will impact your life and teach you courage, patience and tolerance. Use your imagination and don't be afraid to be different. Your numbers are 5, 12, 22, 28, 32, 43, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get creative, pursue a hobby or socialize with people you know you can learn from. Focus on making gains, not on being disgruntled and complaining about the way others do things. Staying positive will be necessary to avoid arguments. ✪✪

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Short trips or vacation plans should be your focus. Don't let anyone talk you into buying a product that promises the impossible. Stick to tried-and-true methods and associate with the people you know and trust. Learn from past experiences. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Consider what you are doing professionally and what you would like to be doing and find a way to incorporate your desires into a profitable endeavor. Think outside the box and you will come up with a plan that works for you. ✪✪✪

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Avoid letting emotions cloud your vision. It's important that you look at all sides of a situation if you want to make a good decision. Don't let anyone put demands on you or pressure you into something you don't want to do. ✪✪✪

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep private information to yourself. Look for positive changes you can make to your appearance or within important partnerships. Stay on top of your finances. Don't let your generosity counteract what you worked so hard to acquire. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Shoot for the stars. Turn your dreams into a reality. Show everyone what you have to offer and a proposal that interests you will be forthcoming. Stability will be yours if you are relentless in your pursuits. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep your thoughts to yourself. Avoid discussions that can make you look bad. Someone will seek to undermine you, triggering the potential for an argument that could be detrimental to your success. Keep your emotions out of the workplace. ✪✪

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Check into different cultural backgrounds and learn all you can about subjects that will help you explore new possibilities. A philosophical or geographic change is apparent. Follow your heart regardless of what others think. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Taking care of other people's business will have its ups and downs. You may enjoy the knowledge you gain, but the headaches that result from dealing with unrealistic expectations will be taxing. Don't make promises you cannot keep. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have trouble ignoring your feelings when dealing with the people you care about. Don't let anyone push you in a direction that doesn't feel right. Back away and be an observer, and you'll avoid being limited physically or financially. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take a moment to rethink your business plans. The changes going on around you will make it difficult for you to make a healthy decision regarding your position. A proposal that offers you a little extra cash might be worth your while. ✪✪✪

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Get out and mingle. Go to a networking event and you will discover information and meet people you want to do business with or get to know better. An open mind and sharing your thoughts will lead to a substantial offer. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are just, caring and helpful. You are unique, entertaining and a dreamer.

Eugenia's Web sites: *eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, eugenialast.com/blog/ for Eugenia's blog and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				9				
7	6		3	8	5		4	1
	8		4		2	3		5
	9		7		3			2
	2		5		8			9
	3	4				8	1	
		8				7		
			6		7			
			8	3	4			

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	6	7	5	2	4	3	1	8
5	1	3	7	6	8	2	9	4
8	2	4	9	3	1	5	6	7
1	9	8	6	5	3	7	4	2
2	7	5	8	4	9	6	3	1
4	3	6	2	1	7	9	8	5
6	4	1	3	7	5	8	2	9
3	5	9	4	8	2	1	7	6
7	8	2	1	9	6	4	5	3

Difficulty Level ★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WELCOME PRINCESS CHARLOTTE OF CAMBRIDGE! Sol.: 10 letters

S	N	A	F	S	S	E	C	N	I	R	P	S	E	S
H	O	O	S	A	R	E	M	A	C	U	A	E	T	E
C	T	D	T	L	K	T	E	R	L	H	N	M	T	L
R	E	N	T	E	N	N	O	B	A	T	A	A	O	R
A	L	I	N	A	L	W	S	N	P	R	I	J	L	A
N	D	L	H	H	D	P	S	I	Y	A	D	A	R	H
O	D	O	T	C	O	D	P	S	U	R	Y	E	A	C
M	I	N	E	I	E	P	H	A	Q	O	R	T	H	A
A	M	D	B	M	A	O	E	N	R	U	L	A	C	R
I	E	O	A	I	S	P	O	H	O	M	E	K	H	O
L	C	N	Z	P	H	T	S	E	G	R	O	E	G	L
L	A	N	I	I	I	W	G	T	T	H	R	O	N	E
I	L	T	L	C	E	O	N	O	R	F	O	L	K	V
W	A	I	E	N	I	R	E	H	T	A	C	U	N	A
L	P	A	R	E	N	T	S	B	U	N	D	L	E	W

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Appleton, Arthur, Bonnet, Bundle, Cameras, Carole, Catherine, Charles, Charlotte, Clap, Crowd, Diana, Duke, Elizabeth, Fans, George, Harry, Home, Hope, James, Kate, Lindo, London, Louis, Michael, Middleton, Monarch, Named, News, Norfolk, Notice, Palace, Parents, Philip, Pippa, Princess, Queen, Royal, St. Mary's Hospital, Throne, Tony, Wave, William

Yesterday's Answer: Pour

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

(2) Radiology Technologists (X-ray), $10.00/hr. Call Precision Medical Imaging, LLC. Tel #233-6000/1

---

(2) House Workers, $6.05/hr. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance at P.O. Box 504053 Saipan MP, 96950

2-All Around Beautician. Modern Hair Salon & Barber Shop. San Jose. Call Mau at 234-1440.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Bookkeeper
- With 5 years minimum experience
- Must have strong communications skills and can work on flexible hours without supervision
- Knowledge in on-line marketing preferred

Please contact (670) 235-1004
from 1:00pm – 5:00pm
JOCELYN MONES TAITANO
Accounting Services and On-line Marketing

HALAL CORPORATION CNMI
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Assistant Manager - College Graduate preferred. Handle VOIP softswitch, Cisco Hardware, and Billing Software. Min. of 3 years experience. Salary: $6.25/hr.

(2) Sales Person - Accept orders and deliver to stores. Receive payments and deposit to banks. Min. of 3 years experience. Salary $5.55/hr.

If interested, please call 233-9457

Job Vacancy Announcement
Manager
- Must have at least 5 years work-related experience
- Preferably someone who can speak Korean and English

Interested applicants, please call
Mr. Adonis Santos at 323-2916

Pacific Corporation SPN Auto Center
is looking for the following positions:

- **Mechanic** – with 5 years' work-related experience
- **Painter** – with 5 years' work-related experience
- **Office Clerk** – with 3 years work-related experience

Ability to speak and write in English and Chinese preferred. Starting salary is $6.05/hour for all positions.

Interested applicants, please send resume to mao.autoshop@gmail.com or to P.O. Box 504991, Saipan MP 96950. For more information, please call (670) 285-0009

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School
Is requesting applicants for:

Science and Math Teacher (1)
- Bachelor's degree in Math or Science required;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

Send resumes to:
Saipan SDA School Principal
P.O. Box 501063 Saipan, MP 96950

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Call 235-NEWS

Mariana Resort & Spa
Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. dba Mariana Resort & Spa, Mariana Country Club, Mariana Seaside Circuit
AVAILABLE JOB
(3) SPA CLEANER
Eligible U.S. workers apply at the Human Resources Office, Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. (Marpi)

Submit resume or fill up an application attached with police clearance at Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. H.R. office in Marpi. Drug test require. Contact person: Emelina Santos Tel # 322-0770 ext. 402/409.

OKADA CORPORATION
dba: Okadaya
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE (1) Cook
Qualifications:
Must be experienced and skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, shashimi, & tempura. Can preprare all menu items according to quantity menus. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties. Can speak and understand Japanese.

Additonal Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transporation and must agree to drug test. And can work in flexible hours.

Interested applicant are required to have a minimim 3-5 years experience and must apply in person at
Okada Corporation dba Okadaya
1F Joeten Commercial Bldg.,
Susupe, Saipan
(No phone call please).

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **$250**/month.
2-BR, 1-BTH. **$350-$550**/month. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$550/month

LNH Apartments
(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater.
$450/month

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **$700**/month
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft
$500/month
***Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded**

FEATURES:
- **Fully Furnished**
- **Back-up Generator**
- **Air-conditioning in all rooms**
- **FREE WiFi**
- **Laundry Area**
- **Nighttime Security**
- **Ample Parking**
- **24hr water**

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment
235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

IRONWOOD PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Property Manager/Administrative Support:
Ironwood is now hiring for their Saipan location.

For the full job description, requirements, and to apply go to **ironwoodguam.com/now-hiring/**

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

SEA INFORMATION / CASHIER
Applicants must be able to pass American Red Cross First Aid/CPR certification courses. Applicant must possess strong communication, interpersonal and customer service skills. The position requires a minimum of six (6) months of previous work experience in a cash handling position. The ability to comprehend and speak Japanese, Korean or Russian language is preferred but not required. The position requires the ability to work under pressure and time constraints. The applicant must be able to stand for long periods of time. The applicant must be able to work on a flexible schedule which includes early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Tuesday, July 21st, 2015.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk
by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance.
Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Maintenance – At least a High School Graduate with a valid driver's license. Ability to efficiently use various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral and written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both written and oral form.

(1) Auto Mechanic – Must have at least 2 years work related experience. Excellent diagnostic/repair skills of vehicle systems. High self-motivation.

(4) Trash Collector – At least a High School Graduate with a valid driver's license. Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time and must be hardworking.

(2) Househelper – Knowledge in cooking Chinese, Japanese and Thai cuisines is a must. Experienced in household chores like cleaning, ironing, gardening, paying bills, and babysitting. With a valid driver's license.

(1) Security Guard – Wide security experience in access systems, patrolling, investigative procedures, incident report writing, and customer service. At least two years' experience. Willing to work flexible time.

(1) Garbage Collector Supervisor – Experienced in supervising and coordinating activities of workers engaged in collecting garbage and other refuse and transporting to disposal plants or areas. With valid driving license. Hardworking and trustworthy. Willing to work flexible time.

Submit Applications To:
AYD Services Inc. • Tel: (670) 235-7011

Job Vacancy Announcement

(2) Accounting Clerk – At least 2 years' experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as, MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Softwares.

(1) Barber – One to Two years' experience as a Barber. Knowledgeable in giving Hair Cut, Hair Colors & Hair High-lights.

(1) Electrician – At least 2 years' experience. Proficient on layout & installation of electrical wiring, machinery and other equipment.

(1) Sewing Machine Operator – High School Diploma or general education degree; or one to 2 years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

(1) Inventory Clerk – High School Diploma or general education degree; or one to 2 years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

(1) Store Keeper – At least a High School Graduate and with 2 years' experience. Trustworthy and willing to work flexible time.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises Corp. • Tel: 235-7270

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Accounting Clerk - At least 2 years' experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as, MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Softwares.

(1) Maintenance - At least a high school graduate with valid driver's license. Ability to efficiently use various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral and written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both written and oral form.

(1) Graphic Artist - Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts. Minimum of 5 years' experience as a Graphic Artist. Proficient in Illustrator/Photoshop CS5.

(4) Screen Printer - At least 2 years' experience. Knowledgeable in screen printing equipment & machines. Able to work flexible hours.

(1) Multi-Task Graphic Designer/Screen Printer Operator - Must have Graphic Design Software skills and screen printing experience. Flexibility to work in various functions and to multi-task effectively.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC. • Tel: 235-1680

WHATZIT Solution: Feeling under the weather

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

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Reds' Todd Frazier wins All-Star Derby in home park

CINCINNATI (AP)—"The Toddfather" has a new title. Todd Frazier—Little League World Series star, Frank Sinatra aficionado—is baseball's new King of Swing.

The Jersey boy who never seems to get rattled waited until his very last swing—three times, no less—to win the All-Star Home Run Derby in his home ballpark on Monday night.

Pressure? Sure didn't show it.

The Reds third baseman became only the second player to win the long-ball competition on his home field Monday night, topping Dodgers rookie Joc Pederson 15-14 with another late surge and one last perfectly timed swing.

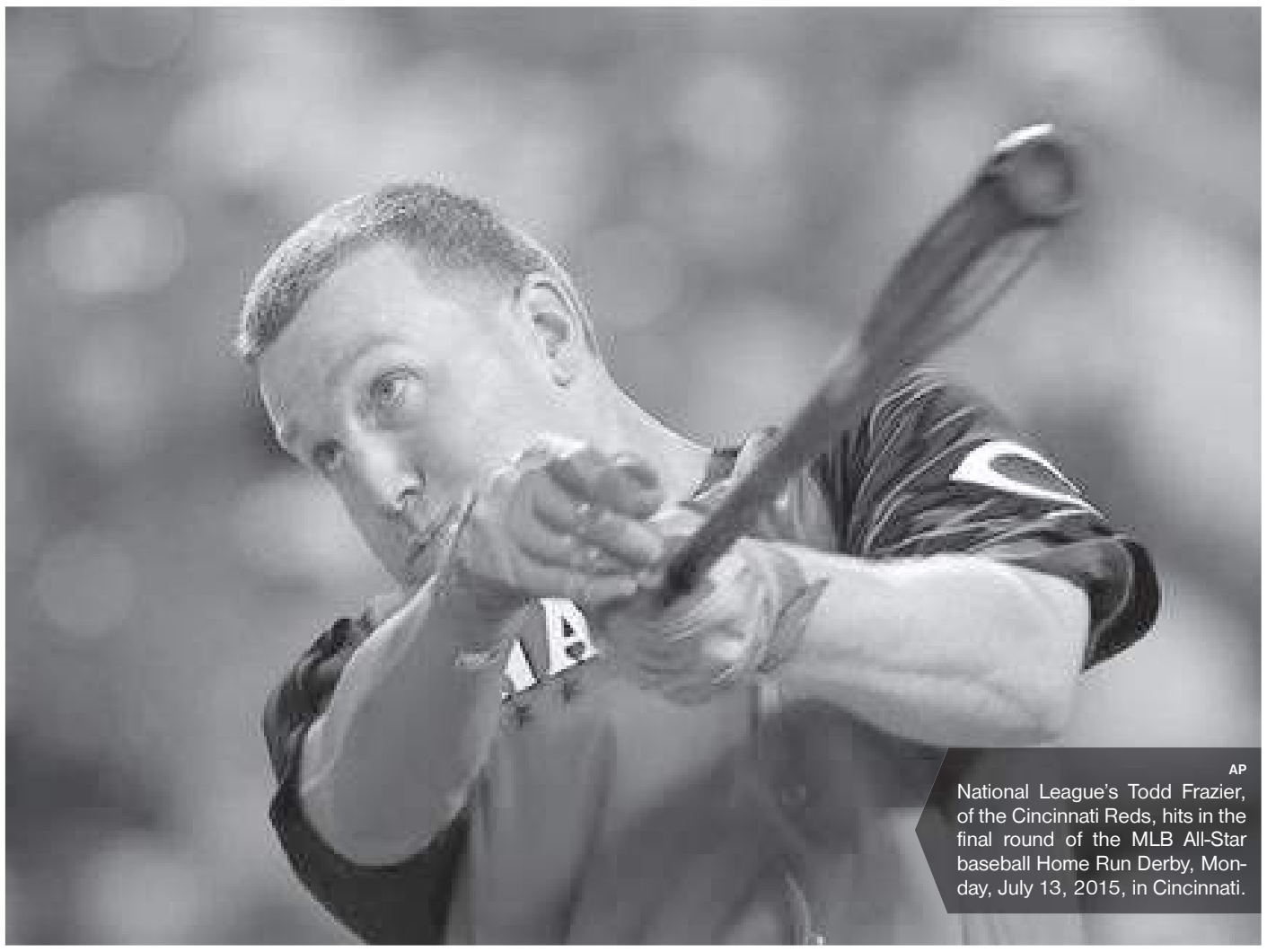
"No pressure here with these fans," he said, after accepting the crossed-bats trophy to one more standing ovation at Great American Ball Park.

Frazier joined the Cubs' Ryne Sandberg for home-field homer titles—the Hall of Fame second baseman did it at Wrigley Field in 1990. After finishing second last year in Minneapolis, this one was as sweet as that winning swing.

"That pushed me a lot," Frazier said. "I wanted to get back here. I'd been working in the offseason a little bit. I'm just glad it was in Cincinnati and they could enjoy it with me."

Pederson was trying to become the first rookie since Wally Joyner in 1986 to win or share the title. He reached the final round by knocking off Albert Pujols, who provided a blast after making the All-Star team for the first time in five years.

"I'm happy for Todd, especially being able to do it in front of his fans," Pujols said. "It's his night. He deserves it. I just hope the fans were pleased and happy with the performance every single guy did. The right guy won, too."



AP
National League's Todd Frazier, of the Cincinnati Reds, hits in the final round of the MLB All-Star baseball Home Run Derby, Monday, July 13, 2015, in Cincinnati.

Frazier topped Prince Fielder and Josh Donaldson to reach the finals, where he faced his biggest test. Pederson went first and matched the highest total of the night with 14 homers. Frazier needed a late surge to pull even, tying him with 11 seconds left in his round.

He'd hit enough long homers to earn an extra 30 seconds, giving him a chance to take a few deep breaths, regroup and refocus.

On the first pitch from brother Charlie in extra time, Frazier puffed his cheeks and exhaled as he hit one solidly, then mouthed the words "That's gone" as the ball headed for the left field stands. The ballpark was full of fans with arms raised even before the ball landed.

How's that?

"It was a great environment," Pederson said. "It was extremely humbling being out there with Prince Fielder, Albert Pujols and Josh Donaldson."

And, of course, it ended with a little more Sinatra.

Frazier uses "Fly Me To The Moon" as his music when he walks to the batter's box during games, and it greeted each of his rounds on Monday. When he'd clinched the title, the ballpark rocked with "I Did It My Way."

"I had no clue they were going to do that," Frazier said. "That was pretty nice."

With that, Frazier made it an All-Cincinnati All-Star event so far. Cubs catcher Kyle Schwarber, a Reds fan who grew up in nearby Middletown, Ohio, was the MVP of the Futures Game on Sunday with a two-run triple.

Frazier had been gearing up for the derby all season. He faded badly last year in Minneapolis, reaching the finals before losing to Yoenis Cespedes 9-1. He was so worn out that he could barely hit one at the end, and he planned to pace himself better this time.

He hung in there and added to his lore for big home runs.

Frazier was a member of the 1998 Toms River team in New Jersey that beat Japan for the Little League World Series championship. He had a homer among his four hits in the clinching game.

He loves hitting at Great American Ball Park, which has been one of the majors' most homer-friendly places since it opened in 2003. He ranks among the major league leaders with 25 home runs this season.

There was speculation that one of the All-Stars might knock one into the Ohio River beyond right field - Adam Dunn is the only one to reach it so far.

No splashdowns. Plenty of drama, though.

Frazier had a tough challenge right away. Fielder was trying to join Ken Griffey Jr. as the only three-time derby champions. Junior watched from foul territory after throwing a ceremonial opening pitch to his father, Ken Sr.

And Fielder wowed `em, hitting 13 homers—eight of them farther than 425 feet, with one estimated at 474 feet. The home crowd groaned collectively as Frazier came to bat and got off to a very slow start. He called timeout to catch his breath after struggling to hit his first five homers.

He caught up with 5 seconds to go in his allotted time, then connected again on his first swing of extra time to move on.

And there was no stopping him.

Trout, Harper, plenty of fresh faces highlight All-Star Game

CINCINNATI (AP)—Not too long ago, Mike Trout, Bryce Harper and Gerrit Cole were the ones picking up the extra balls and getting pranked into paying the pricey checks.

Now, along with the likes of Kris Bryant, Matt Harvey and many others, they've become the face of the All-Star Game and the future of the major leagues.

"The Derek Jeter generation in the last few years came to the end of their careers. We have a great new crop of young players," new Commissioner Rob Manfred said.

This is an age when The Kids are All Right—a record 20 of the 76 All-Stars for Tuesday night's game are 25 or younger, according to STATS.

"I think the young talent in baseball is better than it's been in years," said Yankees first baseman Mark Teixeira, one of the older All-Stars at 35. "These are exciting players, players that kids can look up to."

His former teammates - baseball royalty, in the form of Mariano Rivera and Jeter - are gone.

The brash bats who rule the new era belong to Giancarlo Stanton, Yasiel Puig and Manny Machado, trying to solve bold arms led by Chris Archer, Cole and Harvey.

Major League Baseball, which often relies on the nostalgia of its 19th-century roots, is striving to connect with 21st-century youth more familiar with Reddit and Tinder than Josh Reddick and Branden Pinder.

"We're working very hard to give our fans the kind of access to those players and others in order to raise their awareness of these players," Manfred said. "We do realize we have a challenge in that regard because of what I characterize as generational change."

How different it was in 2011, when Trout was 19 and arrived at his first big league camp. Some Los Angeles Angels veterans invited him to dinner Mastro's City Hall Steakhouse in Scottsdale, Arizona.

A waiter brought the check, which came to $1,800, and ace pitcher Jeff Weaver handed it to Trout and told him the bill was his to pay.

When Trout arrived at Tempe Diablo Stadium a few days later, he found a toy truck in front of his locker. Inside were 7,200 quarters.

And Weaver punked the newbie outfielder later in spring training with a message on the right-field scoreboard, urging fans to call "Mike Trout directly with your baseball questions" during an exhibition game - with his actual cell phone number, of course.

"It was pretty creative of them," said Trout, now a four-time All-Star and winner of an MVP award. "It's part of breaking into the big leagues."

At 23, Bryant looks more high school student than big-time ballplayer. He made his big league debut in April, and his 12 homers and 51 RBIs have given Chicago Cubs' fans hope of a first World Series title since 1908.

Face of the game? He doesn't think so.

"It is pretty cool to be mentioned in the same sentence as those guys," he said.

Cole, a new All-Star at age 24, hopes to bring the Pirates their first title since 1979. He's just two years removed from bringing the veterans balls and gloves out to the field every day during spring training and proving his worth to teammates with a different kind of pitch.

"We'd sing a lot of songs on the bus," he said. "My voice has gotten better—my pitch probably not so much."

Production on the field. Personality off it. That's what baseball's bosses are looking for.

MLB announced in February it had hired Anomaly its new multimedia creative marketing agency. Its first campaign, "This in Baseball," debuted in April for opening day and featured Trout, Stanton and Puig. Others highlighted this season include Joc Pederson, Nolan Arenado and George Springer.

"When you look at the Mike Trouts and the Bryce Harpers and the Kris Bryants of the world, we're just so fortunate and we need to take advantage of this opportunity to the fullest," said Jacqueline Parkes, Major League Baseball's senior vice president and chief marketing officer.

Yet as much as baseball tries to move forward, the sport always looks behind.

Hosting the All-Stars for the first time since 1988, the Reds celebrate their history at Great American Ball Park, which opened in 2003. Statues of former stars Ted Kluszewski, Ernie Lombardi, Joe Nuxhall and Frank Robinson greet fans outside the home plate gate in Crosley Terrace, an homage to the sloped outfield at the team's home from 1912-70.

A Rose Garden outside the first-base stands was planted in tribute to—who else?—Pete Rose, the hometown hero banned from baseball for life for gambling on the Reds to win while playing and managing the club.

The symbol of this year's Midsummer Classic is a handlebar mustache, befitting the club that became baseball's first professional franchise in 1869. Special old-style caps with horizontal stripes will be used, although not in the traditional "pill box" shape.

There are two smokestacks in right center, and a riverboat deck sits above the batter's eye in center field.

For the Home Run Derby on Monday night, batters fell short in their efforts to hit the ball into the next state. A 1980 U.S. Supreme Court decision determined the Ohio-Kentucky border was the low-water mark on the northerly side of the Ohio River—as it existed in 1792, when Kentucky became the 15th U.S. state.

Adam Dunn is said to have hit a drive off the Dodgers' Jose Lima on Aug. 1, 2004, that cleared the batter's eye in center, bounced on the street outside the ballpark—an estimated 535 feet from home plate—and was found among some driftwood in the river.

"I wasn't there for that," said Cincinnati's Todd Frazier, who beat Pederson 15-14 in the Home Run Derby final, "but I heard that ball is still going."

Marc Gasol signs 5-year deal staying with Grizzlies

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—The Memphis Grizzlies have signed All-Star center Marc Gasol to a multi-year contract, fulfilling the team's top priority this offseason.

The team announced Gasol's signing Monday after scheduling a Tuesday news conference for a "major announcement." Although the Grizzlies didn't release terms of the deal, The Associated Press previously reported Gasol had agreed on a five-year maximum contract worth more than $100 million.

"For many years, Marc has been a pillar of our franchise and in a Memphis community that has watched him become one of the best basketball players in the world, so this is a great day for our team, our city and our fans across the Mid-South and worldwide," general manager Chris Wallace said in a statement.

Gasol didn't rush into free agency, meeting only with Grizzlies owner Robert Pera in Spain before agreeing to a new deal.

The 7-foot-1 Spaniard is coming off the best season of his career, earning a starting spot in the All-Star game. He also became the first Grizzlies player voted to the All-NBA first team.

Gasol averaged 17.4 points, 7.8 rebounds, 3.8 assists and 1.62 blocks this past season. He set career highs for total points, scoring average, field goals made and attempted. He scored 30 or more points five times, something he did only once through his first six years combined.

Now 30, Gasol has teamed with Zach Randolph to give the Grizzlies a ferocious front line that endeared them to a city hungry for success. With Gasol leading the way, and maturing from a doughy youngster into a chiseled veteran, the Grizzlies have made a franchise-record five straight playoff appearances. They have reached the Western Conference semifinals three times and made a stirring run to the conference finals in 2013.

The Grizzlies also have won at least 50 games in each of the past three seasons.

Gasol already ranks second in franchise history with 517 career games played and 510 starts.

AP

In this April 24, 2014, file photo, Memphis Grizzlies center Marc Gasol celebrates after scoring against the Oklahoma City Thunder in overtime of Game 3 of an opening-round NBA basketball playoff series in Memphis, Tenn.

Djokovic closing in on Federer, Nadal

LONDON (AP)—A day after winning Wimbledon for a ninth Grand Slam title, moving within five of Rafael Nadal's total and putting him more than halfway to Roger Federer's record of 17, Novak Djokovic was asked about the possibility of catching his two rivals.

He exhaled.

"I don't want to say it's too early to talk about it," Djokovic began, then interrupted himself with a laugh. "I mean, it's probably the right time to talk about it."

It sure is.

The No. 1-ranked Djokovic has firmly established his bona fides as one of the greats of the game by just about any measure, including his three championships at Wimbledon, five at the Australian Open, and one at the U.S. Open. By getting to Grand Slam title No. 9, he pushed ahead of quite a group of guys with eight: Andre Agassi, Jimmy Connors, Ivan Lendl, Fred Perry, Ken Rosewall. Plus, Djokovic is 28, and by all accounts only getting better.

As for chasing the numbers put up by contemporaries Federer and Nadal?

"I'm still far, far away from that. It's still a long way ahead," Djokovic said Monday at the All England Club, about 18 hours after earning his third Wimbledon championship, and second in a row, with a 7-6 (1), 6-7 (10), 6-4, 6-3 victory over second-ranked Federer. "Winning one Grand Slam, I know what it takes. It's a lot of effort. A lot of things have to come together. So to reach these two guys would be something incredible. But honestly, I'm not thinking about it now."

Instead, Djokovic said, he derives motivation from his "passion and love for the sport, and just the joy that I find in playing tennis," along with a sense of "responsibility" he feels to "keep going and bring joy to myself and to" those closest to him, including his wife and their 8-month-old son, Stefan.

Djokovic also said he feels "like I have many years in front of me."

That's probably true, although it will not be easy to maintain the pace he established recently. Over the past 20 Grand Slam tournaments, Djokovic has reached 15 finals—a Federeresque rate—and won eight. And who were the men who lost to Djokovic in those eight? Federer (two), Nadal (three), and Andy Murray (three).

Not too shabby.

As Federer put it during the trophy ceremony at Centre Court on Sunday: "Novak played not only great today but the whole two weeks, plus the whole year, plus last year, plus the year before that."

If it weren't for a four-set loss to Stan Wawrinka in the French Open final, after knocking out Nadal in the quarterfinals, Djokovic would be heading to the U.S. Open, which he won in 2011, with a chance at a calendar-year Grand Slam, just like Serena Williams.

Disappointing as that defeat against Wawrinka was, preventing him from claiming a career Grand Slam, Djokovic recovered quickly.

"Considering where I was, my state of mind, I would say, three, four weeks ago," Djokovic said Monday, "it's pretty amazing to be here with you today as the Wimbledon champion."

It was pointed out to Djokovic that he is the only player who has beaten seven-time Wimbledon champion Federer on the grass of the All England Club, as well as nine-time French Open champion Nadal on the red clay of Roland Garros.

And Djokovic happened to do it in the span of a little more than a month.

"That is a great achievement, now that you mention it," Djokovic said, leaning back in his chair. "I didn't think about it, but it feels pretty good. It's probably an ultimate challenge to win against those two guys on their most preferred surfaces."

Terrific as Djokovic is—owner of the best return in tennis; a genius along the baseline, thanks in part to a speedy, sliding, body-contorting style that lets him get to nearly every ball—he is intent on improving.

That's why he brought aboard Boris Becker as a second coach, for example, to help his mental toughness and serve, among other things.

Thunder match Portland's offer sheet, will keep Kanter

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—The Thunder will keep Enes Kanter after matching an offer sheet by the Portland Trail Blazers on Sunday.

Oklahoma City acquired the center in a trade with the Utah Jazz last season, and he helped the Thunder while Kevin Durant and Serge Ibaka battled injuries. He averaged 13.8 points and 7.8 rebounds for Utah, but those numbers ballooned to 18.7 points and 11.0 rebounds with the Thunder.

Kanter entered the offseason as a restricted free agent, and a person with knowledge of the details told The Associated Press that he signed a four-year, $70 million offer sheet with Portland last week.

The Thunder said all along they wanted to keep the 23-year-old Kanter, who scored 20 or more points in 12 of his 26 appearances with the Thunder last season.

"We traded for Enes last season with the intention of keeping him as a member of the Thunder for several years to come, and we are excited that he will continue with us," Thunder general manager Sam Presti said in a statement.

Kanter is a skilled low-post scorer who adds versatility to an offense that features Durant, Ibaka and reigning scoring champion Russell Westbrook. After the midseason deal with Utah, Kanter proved to instantly have a good rapport with Westbrook, especially on the pick-and-roll.

Kanter made it clear during the season that he was much happier in Oklahoma City, and that he considered the Thunder a first-class organization. But Kanter, the No. 3 pick in the 2011 draft, will need to improve defensively.

The move could be attractive to Durant. The 2014 MVP is entering the final year of his contract after playing just 27 games last season. The Thunder appear to be all in on trying to get him a title before he has to make a final decision.

Oklahoma City is well over the salary cap and will pay the luxury tax, a change of direction for the typically cost-conscious franchise. But the league recently had a 10.3 percent increase in the luxury tax number, to $84.7 million, and that number will climb higher the following year when the league's new television deals take effect.

Oklahoma City already had shaken things up by firing coach Scott Brooks and replacing him with Florida's Billy Donovan.

Now, it appears the Thunder will be in position to compete in an improving West that features defending champion Golden State and an improved San Antonio squad that signed LaMarcus Aldridge.

76ers say Embiid needs more surgery, out for next season

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Joel Embiid may not make his NBA debut until 2016, if at all.

Embiid and the Philadelphia 76ers have determined the center will have a second surgery on his right foot, this time a bone graft procedure. The 76ers confirmed the news Saturday night.

The 7-footer from Kansas was the third overall pick in the 2014 NBA draft. He missed his entire rookie season after having surgery to repair a stress fracture in his foot last June.

The team announced last month he suffered a setback in his recovery. And now the injury figures to threaten Embiid's career.

"We have been consistent in our philosophy that our focus will be Joel's long-term health and wellness to ensure he will have a long and impactful career in the NBA," 76ers general manager Sam Hinkie said in a statement.

"There was careful consideration given to a number of options related to this particular situation," Hinkie continued. "A collective decision has been made that the best approach to promote full healing would be to proceed with a bone graft of the fracture site. We anticipate the procedure will take place in the next 7-10 days and result in Joel missing the upcoming season."

The Philadelphia Inquirer was first to report Embiid will have another operation.

The team used the No. 3 pick last month on Duke center Jahlil Okafor.

The 76ers said they met with doctors around the globe after the realization was struck that Embiid had a setback—summoning experts from New York, North Carolina, Colorado, California, Pennsylvania, Australia, the Netherlands and Qatar to determine the course of action.

"This group of experts unanimously agreed that the routine CT scan in June did reveal less healing than anticipated, an unexpected result since Joel was not experiencing any foot pain," Hinkie said.

New study banning headers only part of stopping concussions

AURORA, Colo. (AP)—A group of scientists checked a decade's worth of data about what causes concussions in high school soccer. Their conclusion: While a ban on heading would help decrease head injuries, what the game really needs is better enforcement of rules restricting all sorts of player-to-player contact.

A paper published Monday by a group of Denver-area doctors sheds a different light on what results might come from a campaign led by Brandi Chastain and other women soccer stars to ban headers for players 14 and under.

The paper, appearing in JAMA Pediatrics, was based on data collected since 2005 involving more than 1,000 high school soccer concussions. It concluded that by banning heading in youth soccer, about 30 percent of concussions could be avoided, but that a far larger decrease could be possible if rules that limit player-to-player contact were more stringently enforced.

"A lot of people felt, if we could get a ban on heading, we could keep some people safe," said Dawn Comstock, an epidemiologist with the Colorado School of Public Health at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. "My question was, is there any evidence out there that supports that?"

Coinciding with the women's World Cup, a group of concussion experts teamed with Chastain and other women soccer players to make a big public push for the Safer Soccer initiative. They cited a study that tracked 59 concussions suffered by junior-high girls in Washington State and concluded that about 30 percent of those injuries could be eliminated if heading were banned. That extrapolates to a potential of around 100,000 concussions avoided over a three-year period.

AP

In this Feb. 20, 2014 file photo, Sam Schneider, left, practices with his U16-9798 Premiere club soccer team at St. Louis Soccer Park in St. Louis, Mo.

Comstock's numbers were similar but were collected as part of her extensive nine-year-old project that charts all sorts of injuries suffered by high school athletes in several sports, including soccer. The majority of the players she surveys fall outside the age group targeted by Safer Soccer, but Comstock called it the closest thing to a full data set that's available on the subject.

"It's very important to understand where we are, and we are not talking about the high school level," said Robert Cantu, one of the country's leading concussion experts, who helped spearhead the Safer Soccer project. "We're not asking for heading to be taken out at the high school level. She thinks a greater good could be achieved by taking rough play out, altogether."

Among the authors' concerns is that the ban could lead to a different set of injuries as players move differently to avoid contacting the ball with their head.

They wondered about the efficacy of changing the fundamental nature of the game by eliminating a key element: "It's like me walking into a football rules meeting and saying, `I can make your game much, much safer. Just get rid of tackling,'" Comstock said.

And they wondered about the 14-year-old cutoff point, which is a common dividing point for youth leagues: "I don't see how banning heading for a 12-year-old makes a 15-year-old any safer," said one of the authors, Sarah Fields, who studies sports in American culture.

Cantu conceded there was no perfect cut-off point. He said the ages 8 to 14 are when the brain is most vulnerable and when much of the most important brain growth occurs.

Fields also decried what she called a "paternalistic attitude" toward girls. Among her complaints on that subject is the lack of male soccer stars supporting the movement.

"We spent decades trying to get girls access to sports," Fields said. "To now say, `Tone it down,' because the premise is that they were too physically frail and the sport is too dangerous, that would be dangerous for girls."

Chris Nowinski, the one-time WWE wrestler who became a leading voice in the concussion prevention effort, said Safer Soccer isn't trying to single out girls. Though women soccer players, including Chastain and Cindy Parlow Cone, are leading the campaign, Nowinski said some high-profile male players will join the Safer Soccer cause soon.

For years, Comstock and her co-authors have been leaders in the study and prevention of concussions in many sports, though this latest paper seems to put them on opposite sides from the Safer Soccer leaders.

Comstock insists that isn't exactly the case.

"It does seem logical to say, `If most concussions occur during heading, let's stop heading,'" she said. "I understand the movement. But we have more data and we can look at this in more detail."

PALAU

From Page 28

Kent Ogasawara, Adonis Favor, and Khristian Itaas combined for 16 markers.

Palau will face undefeated Guam at 6pm today, while winless teams Tataga and Alu'u clash in the 4pm opener.

In the first game, Christian Arceo finished with 24 points to lead four other Dolphins who reached double digits in their easy win over the Tataga.

The Dolphins pulled away early in the match then limited the Tataga to 4 points in the first quarter in that lopsided win.

Jude Tengco came up with 15 points, Jun Alipio and Dalton Dancoe ended up with 14 markers each, while Angelo Factor scored 10.

J.P. Cruz was the lone Tataga to break double digits with 16, while Joseph Kisa added 8 markers. Paulo Caddag and Matthew Ong had 6 apiece.

First Game

Marianas Dolphins 103 – Arceo 24, Tengco 15, Alipio 14, Dancoe 14, Factor 10, Mendoza 8, Cobacha 6, Dela Cruz 4, Mamaril 4, Ogumoro 4.

Marianas Tataga 47 – Cruz 16, Kisa 8, Caddag 6, Ong 6, Richardson 5, Quiroz 4, Valencia 2.

Scoring by quarters: 30-4, 47-18, 70-31, 103-47.

Second Game

Palau 68 – Ganac 18, Baysa 12, Worswick 12, De Lina 8, Goodall 4, Tarkong 4, Canate 3, Kingzlo 3, Reklai 2, Stark 2.

Marianas Alu'u 36 – Norita 11, Islam 9, Apasan 4, Lizama 4, Ogasawara 4, Favor 2, Itaas 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-6, 34-16, 51-29, 68-36.

JON PEREZ

Palau's Omar Ganac lies on the floor as he tries to keep the ball away from two Marianas Alu'u players while teammate Wallace Worswick, right, looks on in this bit of action in their game in yesterday's 2015 Micronesian Basketball Tournament U15 yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

LESSONS

From Page 28

"It was raining in Gwangju during the Games. Seiya needed two days to acclimatize himself and for his lungs to adjust to the cool weather. We often experience a cool weather on Saipan but it wasn't the same in Korea," said Barnes, who came back to Saipan yesterday.

Temperatures in Gwangju reached 68 degrees Fahrenheit (20 degrees Celsius) with scattered rain showers. It was cloudy in Gwangju during the day of the competition.

"It took Seiya a couple of days of slow and long distance running to get used to Gwangju's climate and the temperature change. He has adjusted now and is ready to go for a personal record," said Barnes, who left with Eda last July 2.

"Some of Seiya's opponents where older than him. Maybe they are already in college but he gave his best and this experience will help him become a better runner," added Barnes, a former Northern Marianas Athletics president and the current vice president of the Northern Marianas Sports Association.

Barnes said that Eda has learned a lot in this one chance of competing in a top level running event like the World University Games.

A total of 13,000 athletes competed in 18 sports, spread out in 273 events, in the biennial Universiade Games.

Moroccan Said Aouita's Universiade record of 3:38:43 in the 1,500m run remains unbroken for more than three decades now. The former four-time Mediterranean Games champion and 1984 Los Angeles Olympics gold medalist made the feat during the 1981 edition in Bucharest, Romania.

Compatriot Hicham El Guerrouj, on the other hand, is the World Record holder as the two-time Olympic champion set the best time of 3:26:00 during the Rome Grand Prix on July 14, 1998.

CAMP

From Page 28

sport, is a little more serious where the participating teens learn some conditioning exercises and basic drills to further improve the way they play.

A mini tournament will be held in the last week of the badminton clinic where participants will be divided into teams and compete against each other in men's, women's, and mixed doubles.

Over at the football side, the coaches have taught the kids how to dribble the ball and receive a pass from their teammate.

They also play regular games where they learn basic plays on how to score goals.

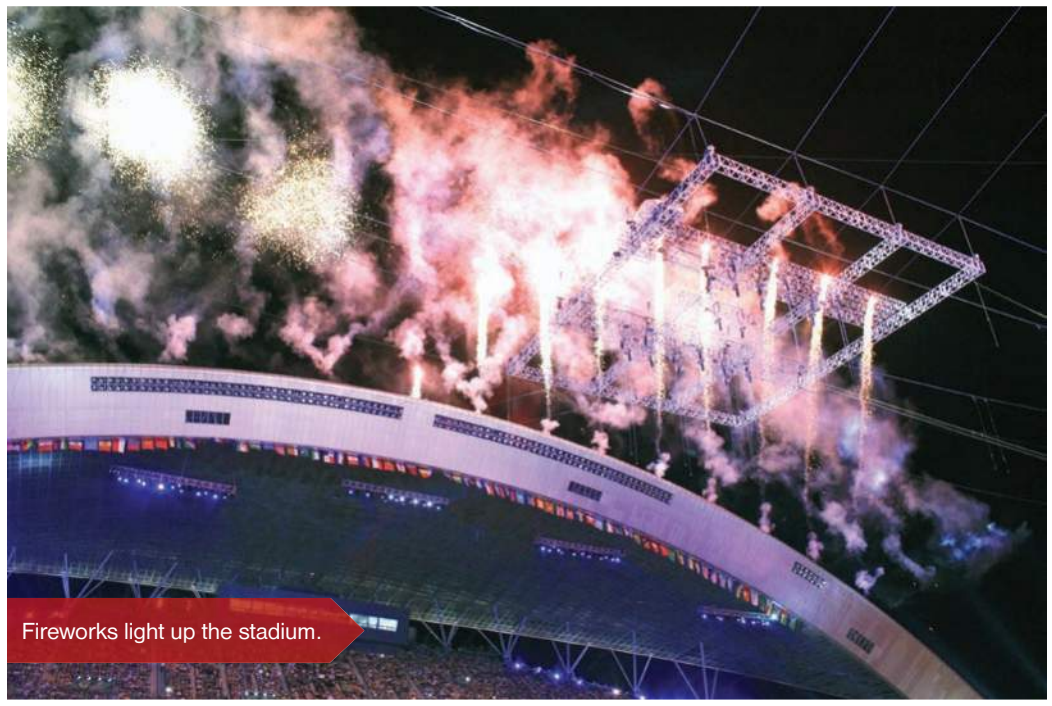
Organizers of the clinic will also hold a mini tournament from Aug. 3 to 7 where participants will be chosen for badminton and football.

Dodgeball, volleyball, basketball, bowling, beach soccer, and other fun games—tug of war, egg relay, obstacle course, and banana/apple eating contest— are also lined up.

XXVIII Summer World University Games

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Seiya Eda arrives at the XXVIII Summer World University Games in Gwangju City in South Korea.



Fireworks light up the stadium.

The CNMI flag hangs with the flags of other countries around the Gwangju World Cup Stadium.

The Universiade flame is lit the entire duration of the Games.

Dancers, clad in traditional Korean attire, greet the arriving athletes.

Performers light up fireworks during the opening ceremony.

CNMI delegates Seiya Eda, right, and Kurt Barnes before the opening parade.

Seiya Eda, right, and CNMI head of delegation Kurt Barnes, left, pose with a Games official.

Part of the capacity crowd that watched the opening ceremony last July 4.

One of the Korean volunteers hold the CNMI marker before the parade of athletes.

Reds' Todd Frazier wins All-Star Derby in home park

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Sports

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Lessons learned for Seiya in Universiade

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Seiya Eda makes a turn in of the laps of the 1,500-meter run during the XXVIII Summer World University Games last week in at the Gwangju World Cup Stadium in Gwangju City's Seo-gu District in South Korea.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI's rising long distance runner Seiya Eda tried his best against older and seasoned runners when he competed in the XXVIII Summer World University Games last week in Gwangju City in South Korea.

Eda, who will return to Saipan today, saw action in of the three qualifying heats in the 1,500-meter run last week under a cool rainy weather at the Gwangju World Cup Stadium in Gwangju's Seo-gu District.

The protégé of veteran long distance runner Jack Kabiriel finished 11th out of 12 runners in his heat with a time of 4:54.34.

This was eight seconds short of his 4:46.00 time he recorded in last year's Micronesian Games in Pohnpei where he missed a podium finish after coming in at fourth. He also placed fourth in the half marathon event.

Eda's time at the Universiade, however, was much better than the 5:29.62 time he had in this year's Public School System/McDonald's All-Schools Athletics Championship. He clocked 5:04.89 in the 2014 edition of the annual athletics event.

CNMI head of delegation Kurt Barnes, who is also Eda's coach, said that despite all the odds that his ward faced he gave his best in order to represent the Commonwealth.

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141 join Tan Siu Lin Summer Camp

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

A total of 141 kids joined this year's edition of the Tan Siu Lin Summer Camp held Mondays to Fridays at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

The summer camp, which offers badminton and football, started last June 29 and will end on July 31. The daily summer clinic starts at 8:30am up to 11:30am.

Sessions were not held during the onslaught of typhoons Chan-Hom and Nangka that passed by Saipan on back-to-back Fridays.

Sixty-two signed up for badminton and they are divided into the Under-10 and U15 age groups while 79 joined football, all in U15.

Community Badminton Club members John Costales, Deether Edralin, Nicole Malasarte, Jeremi Montenejo, and reigning Sun Palace badminton tournament women's singles champion Janelle Pangilinan are facilitating the clinic

Hu Jin Woo is conducting the football clinic assisted by a number of female football players from the different clubs.

CBC members have so far taught both age groups on the basic skills used in badminton like jumping, running, and hitting the birdie or shuttlecock.

It was playtime for the kids in the U10 age group where CBC members let the kids compete in relay races or play tag that teach them about the proper footwork used in playing badminton.

The U15 age division, who already know how to play the

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JON PEREZ
A football and badminton clinic is ongoing at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai where kids learn the basic skills used in playing the sports.

Palau, Dolphins rout MBT foes

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Visiting team Palau and the Marianas Dolphins pulled off separate lopsided wins over their respective opponents in the 2015 Micronesian Basketball Tournament U15 yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Palau trounced host team Marianas Alu'u, 68-36, for its second straight win after suffering a 61-56 setback at the hands of the Dolphins on opening day. The Dolphins, meanwhile, dealt Marianas Tataga a 103-47 thrashing in the first game.

M.J. Baysa and Wallace Worswick combined for 14 of Palau's 20 second-quarter points when they slowly put some distance over the Alu'u.

Palau, after that second-quarter scoring barrage, did not slow down after that and used a stifling full-court trapping defense to convert Alu'u's errors into points.

Palau's lead continued to balloon further until the final buzzer.

The Alu'u had a mini run with barely four minutes gone in the fourth period as it trimmed Palau's 30-point lead to 22, 53-31.

That run was short-lived though as Palau countered with a run of their own to finally silence their opponents.

Omar Ganac scattered 18 points to lead Palau's scoring, while Baysa and Worswick provided scoring support with 12 markers each.

Bud Jason Norita paced the Alu'u with 11 points while Khalid Islam added 9 more. Sean Apasan, Rikko Lizama,

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JON PEREZ
Palau's Wallace Worswick challenges the defense of a Marianas Alu'u player in their game in yesterday's 2015 Micronesian Basketball Tournament U15 yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.